

Election called in Canada after defeat of Government

Canadians have been plunged into a winter of discontent by the defeat of the fledgling Progressive Conservative minority Government in Ottawa. Conservatives fell on a no confidence motion in the Budget, which opposition parties said precipitated an economic depression.

Mr Trudeau may again lead Liberals

Mr. Pierre Trudeau, leader of the Liberal Party, has been forced into a winter election campaign by the fall of Mr. Joe Clark's minority Progressive Conservative Government after seven months in office. Mr. Clark announced the election of the House of Commons to the Liberal Party, which the opposition parties had been bringing down the government. The election is to be held on Feb. 8. Mr. Clark announced the election of the House of Commons to the Liberal Party, which the opposition parties had been bringing down the government. The election is to be held on Feb. 8. Mr. Clark announced the election of the House of Commons to the Liberal Party, which the opposition parties had been bringing down the government. The election is to be held on Feb. 8.

Goldsmith role in oil deal, Israel radio says

From Christopher Walker
Jerusalem, Dec 14

Israel radio reported today that negotiations are under way between the Israeli Government and an international oil company controlled by Sir James Goldsmith over a controversial oil prospecting venture. According to a brief report the deal could provide Israel with up to 2 million tonnes of oil a year, about a quarter of its annual consumption. This was exactly the amount lost last month when the Alma field in the Gulf of Suez was handed back to Egypt under the terms of the Camp David agreement.

The Israeli military censor has prevented the naming of the country where the venture will be based, but it is known to be outside Europe.

A spokesman for Sir James's holding company, Generale Occidentale, said in Paris last night that any suggestion of an oil deal with the Israeli Government was "nonsense".

The radio report said that Sir James's company already had oil prospecting rights in the country where the venture would be based.

If the deal is successful, it will be a considerable boost to the ailing Israeli economy. Since the overthrow of the Shah and the Iranian revolution, supplies from Iran, the Israelis have been anxiously looking for willing foreign oil suppliers. The country is denied access to Arab oil because of the Arab boycott.

Israel has no oil of its own and depends on outside sources for all but 2 per cent of its energy needs. Egypt has pledged to maintain supplies from the Alma field, but the price has been guaranteed only for the first year, and the supply is susceptible to any unforeseen breakdown in the Middle East peace process.



Major-General John Acland, the British commander of the Commonwealth ceasefire monitoring force in Southern Rhodesia, conferring with staff officers in Salisbury yesterday.

New crisis could wreck Rhodesia accord

By David Spanier
Diplomatic Correspondent

A serious dispute over Lord Carrington's ceasefire plan erupted at the Southern Rhodesia constitutional conference last night, which threatens to wreck the entire settlement today.

The Patriotic Front said that they would refuse to sign the ceasefire today, unless the British side moved to accept its demands on the location of its forces, to take account of their operational strength in the country, and that Lord Carrington could "go hang".

Although these kinds of threats have been uttered and overcome before, the latest disagreement appears to be serious and substantial. Lord Carrington is insisting that a decision must be taken today, when he has called a plenary session for

11 am, and that no further negotiation is possible.

Denouncing the British proposals as unreasonable and the initial conduct of Lord Soames as Governor as "racist", the Patriotic Front spokesmen said last night the crux of the dispute was that they wanted 31 bases for their forces in the ceasefire plan.

The British proposals, which gave the Patriotic Front only 15 assembly areas were drawn up before the guerrilla commanders had submitted their figures for their forces, and was, said the spokesmen, therefore completely unrealistic.

The Patriotic Front claims, further, that while the British had estimated its forces at 1,000 for each assembly area, the total was far higher, and their forces far more widespread than Britain had believed.

Lord Carrington met Mr Joshua Nkomo and Mr Robert Mugabe, the Patriotic Front co-leaders, for an hour at the Foreign Office yesterday, but evidently failed to persuade them.

His argument was that the package negotiated these past 14 weeks, that is the constitution, the interim arrangements before the election, and the terms of the ceasefire, must now be taken as a whole, and that Saturday was "the day of decision".

Warning that the conference risked foundering today, the Patriotic Front spokesmen made it clear that the dispute was based on its fears of being massacred in the assembly areas.

"Once we move our forces we harm ourselves in two ways," Mr Nkomo said, the Patriotic

Front spokesman, said. "We jeopardize the lives of our men and women, and we harm ourselves politically by moving out of areas which the other side will fill."

Dr Edson Zvobgo, spokesman for Mr Mugabe's wing, said that their position was reasonable and valid and that if necessary they would take their case before the Security Council.

He claimed that a gigantic plot against the Patriotic Front was being furthered by an unholy alliance of Bishop Muzorewa, Mrs Thatcher, Lord Carrington and Mr Pieter Botha, the South African Prime Minister.

A British spokesman said that any suggestion that Britain was complicit in massacre was contemptible.

Salisbury report, page 4

Art dealer arrested with 'lost' Tintoretto

From Michael Leapman
New York, Dec 14

An Israeli art dealer was charged here today with trying to sell a Tintoretto masterpiece which had been missing since its disappearance from Dresden Museum, East Germany, in 1945. He was arrested in a hotel room yesterday while allegedly trying to sell the canvas to an undercover agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation for \$250,000 (about £120,000)—roughly a quarter of its estimated market value.

The Tintoretto, "The Holy Family with Saint Catherine and Honoured Donor", is one of up to half a dozen paintings of exceptional value which vanished from Germany after the Second World War, and have been rumoured to be on the market here for several months.

Investigations are at an early stage, but it seems that the paintings were taken from Dresden by a member of the Soviet occupation force in 1945 and hidden in Russia for more than 20 years. Earlier this year they were believed to have been taken to Israel among the possessions of an emigrating Soviet Jewish family.

The remaining canvases in that group have not been identified. Among the paintings from Dresden unaccounted for since 1955 are several Van Dycks, an important Correggio and Courbet's "The Stone Breakers".

Many of the art works in Dresden were destroyed by allied bombing. Of those that survived, the most valuable were confiscated by the occupying Russians, who returned them to Dresden in 1955. It appears that an enterprising Russian soldier or official may have diverted some of the paintings into his own custody at the time of their removal from Dresden.

At a preliminary hearing today the arrested dealer, named as Raymond Vinokur, of Tel Aviv, said the painting was sold by a Russian soldier to Joseph Silbermann, who now lives in a Tel Aviv suburb. Mr Silbermann had brought it to Israel as his property and Mr Vinokur was acting on his behalf.

Bail was set at \$50,000 (nearly £25,000) and Mr Vinokur was released on bail. Continued on page 5, col 2



Clark: A bitter
it after vote.

4 Americans shot dead in Istanbul

From Sinan Fisek
Ankara, Dec 14

Four Americans were killed in an Istanbul suburb today in one of the worst acts of terrorism ever aimed at foreigners in Turkey. The victims, identified as James Clark, a non-commissioned officer in the United States Armed Forces, and Mr. Elmer Cooper, Mr. Robert French and Mr. James Smith, civilian employees of the Boeing company, were cut down by machine-gun fire in the district of Florya near the Marmara Sea. They had just stepped off a service bus which brought them from the Nato communications relay station of Calimaki, outside Istanbul, to their homes.

The assailants, three men and a woman, escaped in a car after the attack. Police said that 46 shots were fired at the Americans, and residents of the block of flats where the victims lived opened fire on the terrorists with shotguns. Some may have been wounded, they said.

New York ban on boxing after death

From Our Own Correspondent
New York, Dec 14

Boxing has been banned in New York State until reforms are instituted which would help prevent incidents such as one which led to the death of a boxer last month. The fighter, Willie Classen, died five days after he was knocked out in a bout at Felt Forum, part of the Madison Square Garden complex.

Mr Roy Goodman, a member of the State senate, held two weeks of hearings on Classen's death and concluded that it was "a preventable tragedy". The boxer had been badly hurt in the head by his opponent, Wilfred Scypion, in the ninth round, but was allowed to turn for the tenth, when he absorbed more severe punishment. He suffered severe brain damage and never regained consciousness after falling to the canvas.

Irish inquest to be held before jury after ruling by Court of Appeal

By Symon
The inquest into the death of Mr. Peach, the New teacher who died in the head-dress demonstration in Southall, will be held before a jury after a ruling by the Court of Appeal yesterday.

Mr. Peach was a supporter of the Anti-Nazi League and the demonstration on April 23 was against a National Front election meeting. He died in hospital the next day.

An investigation was held by Commander John Cass, the head of Scotland Yard's Complaints Investigations Bureau.

Wanted man detained after IRA raids

One of the men on Scotland Yard's most wanted list after IRA bomb attacks in Britain last year has been detained in the raids this week, police announced. He was named as Mr Gerry Tuite, sought for questioning in connection with terrorist offences. Page 2

Prison inquiry sought

Mr Alexander Lyon, Labour MP for York, has called for a public inquiry into the clash at Wormwood Scrubs prison which ended with 54 prisoners and 11 prison officers injured. He says in a letter to the Home Secretary that a "cloak of secrecy and fear" surrounds the events. Page 3

Protests in Madrid

Protest demonstrations were held in Madrid and its surrounding area after two rioters were killed by police on Thursday night. More demonstrations are feared. Page 4

Nato leaves British Polaris out of Salt 3

Nato ministers meeting in Brussels agreed not to put pressure on Britain to offer its Polaris deterrent for negotiations in the proposed Salt 3 rounds. Nato's offer of troop reductions, agreed at the meeting, is to be tabled at the Vienna talks with the Soviet block on Monday. In a communiqué they urged a fundamental change in East-West ties. Page 4

Arson in Wales: Police are examining a possible link between Welsh extremists and the IRA after fires

Washington: Mrs Thatcher visits the United States this weekend for talks with President Carter which are likely to be dominated by Iran. Page 5

Lord exports trade narrows

Visible trade deficit contracted by £56m, the lowest monthly this year, compared with the deficit of £339m. The ending of the steel industry strikes helped exports by £161m last month and £173m. The trade figures boosted by a fall in the oil deficit from £85m in October. Page 17

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Arthor Ashe has heart operation

New York, Dec 14.—Arthur Ashe, former Wimbledon and United States Open tennis champion, has heart surgery today and was reported to be in a satisfactory condition. He had three grafts in arteries. Mr Ashe, aged 36, who suffered a heart attack last July 31, was admitted to a Florida hospital last week.—Reuters.

E Germans jail journalist 'spy'

Berlin, Dec 14.—Peter Felten, a West German freelance journalist, was sentenced to 12 years' imprisonment today by a military court in East Berlin on charges of spying against East Germany. He is the sixth West German this year to have been jailed by an East German military court.—Agence France-Presse.

Iraqi held in Heathrow bomb scare

An explosives specialist from the Home Office went to Heathrow airport, London, last night to examine explosives and detonators found on a passenger who was detained by customs officials. The man, an Iraqi according to Scotland Yard, was stopped by customs men in Terminal Three. The British Airports Authority said he was carrying explosives and detonators. The whole of the Terminal Three arrivals area was evacuated and the man was being questioned by customs and Special Branch officers. It was not known whether the explosives were in the form of a bomb. Later, passengers were allowed back into the arrivals building. The explosives, weighing between 1lb and 2lb, were believed to have been concealed in tubes of instant shaving foam, found on a man who walked from a Middle Eastern Airlines flight from Beirut. The explosives were packed separately from the detonators.

Doctors fly in as Shah deteriorates

Fort Worth, Texas, Dec 14.—The deposed Shah of Iran's condition has worsened and his New York doctors flew here today to decide whether to operate on him again after his recent gall bladder surgery and cancer treatment in New York. In Suva, the Fijian Cabinet has overruled a decision by Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara the Prime Minister, to allow the Shah to live there, but the Prime Minister reiterated that he would personally be willing to accept the Shah.—Agence France-Presse and Reuters.

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HOME NEWS

Man wanted after IRA bombing offensive last year held in Operation Otis, Yard says

By a Staff Reporter

One of 18 people detained in the anti-terrorism roundup this week was Mr Gary Tuitt, wanted for questioning after the IRA bombing campaign in England a year ago. He is high on Scotland Yard's wanted list.

Police had information that the Provisional IRA had plans for a Christmas bombing offensive in English cities. People were detained in London, Liverpool, Manchester, Birmingham and Southampton.

Commander Peter Duffy, head of the anti-terrorist squad, said: "We had reason to believe that they would be taking place in the near future, possibly within the next few days."

Mr Gilbert Kelland, Assistant Commissioner (Crime) at Scotland Yard said the public should stay alert. The police would be looking for anyone who had been asked to sell radio-control equipment. What they were looking for was equipment similar to that which had been used in the IRA bombing of Lord Mountbatten of Burma.

The police also wanted to hear from people who had been approached by a man, or a man and a woman, offering a flat.

No explosives were found during the police raids, code-named Operation Otis. Mr Kelland said that Mr Tuitt was being held on suspicion of being a member of the IRA.

Robert Storey, Robert Campbell

and Richard Glenholmes, at a house in Holland Park. All four were Irish, normally lived in Ireland and had arrived in England recently.

A photo-fit picture of Mr Tuitt appears on a poster circulated since last February.

Police have been anxious to question "Gerrard Fossett" alleged to be an alias of Mr Tuitt about three car bomb explosions in Central London last December, and bombings at Greenwich gasworks and an oil store at Canvey Island in January.

Mr Kelland said he expected that criminal charges would be brought shortly against some of those detained.

Operation Otis, he said, owed its success to the teamwork of the anti-terrorist squad, the Special Branch, the Special Patrol Group, English provincial forces and the RUC and the Garda Siochana.

Birmingham police said last night that one of two men detained had been freed; in Liverpool one of four people held has been released; and one of four held in Southampton has also been allowed to go.

In the High Court yesterday a man and two women detained in the roundup were given leave to apply for writs of habeas corpus releasing them from detention on the ground that they are being held unlawfully.

The plea that the case should be heard at once on the

ground that the detention was not valid under the Prevention of Terrorism Act was rejected by Lord Justice Shaw and Mr Justice Woolf. The hearing was adjourned until Tuesday to enable the police to file evidence and be represented.

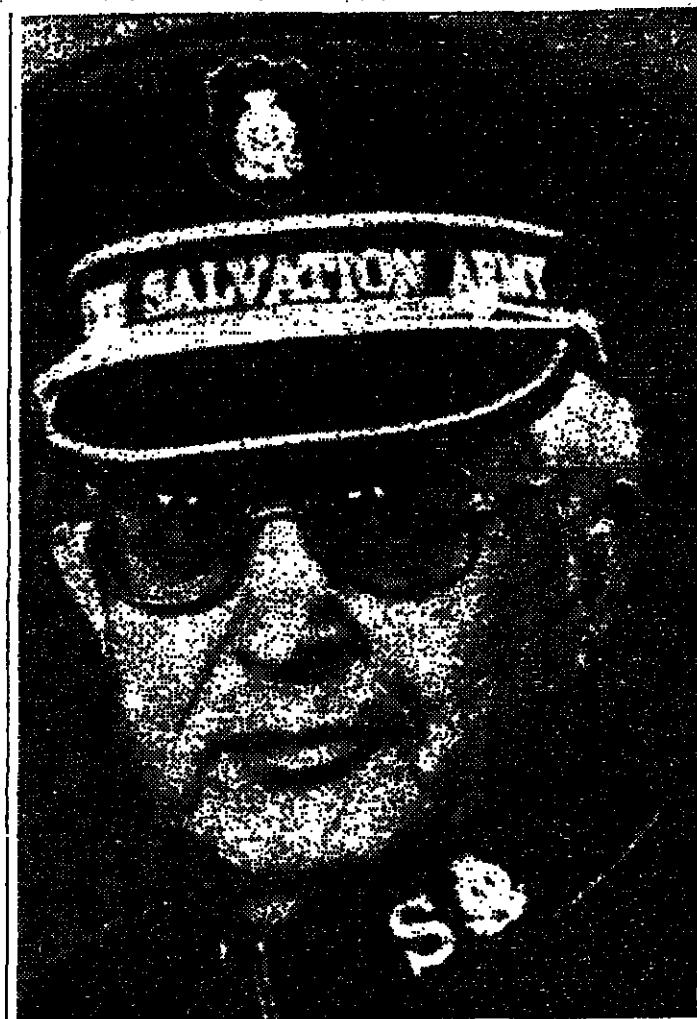
The three who made the applications were Patrick Prendiville, aged 33, deputy editor of the news magazine, *Weekly Mirror*; Maria Theresa Melia, aged 27, of Sulgrave Road, Hammersmith; and Jacqueline O'Malley, aged 30 of Wilshaw Street, Notting Hill.

Lord Justice Shaw said the court had been told that the three were being detained under the Prevention of Terrorism Act and that the Home Secretary had authorized detention for five more days. At this stage, he said, the court could not consider allegations of unlawful detention.

Mr Patrick O'Connor, counsel for Mr Prendiville, said that an adjournment would render the habeas corpus procedure meaningless and would enable the police to fob off the court.

The officer in charge of the case had been quoted as saying that the police raids had been a preemptive strike to prevent a bombing campaign.

"But taking out of circulation people against whom there is no evidence, at the moment, to justify reasonable suspicion or a charge is something the court should not permit," Mr O'Connor said.



Salvation Army chief: Commissioner John Needham, who is to take over as leader of Salvation Army activities in Britain on January 1. He succeeds Commissioner Geoffrey Dalziel, who is retiring. Commissioner Needham was born in Ilkeston, Derbyshire, and moved to the United States at the age of seven with his Salvation Army officer parents.

Police investigate Welsh arson link

From Tim Jones

Police in Wales yesterday were examining a possible link between Welsh extremists and the IRA after confirming that four fires which destroyed holiday homes in north and west Wales were started deliberately.

A senior police officer said yesterday: "We have known for some time that some young Welshmen travel to Ireland to contact Provisional sources and this is one line of investigation we are pursuing."

The police are concerned particularly that militant Welsh activists may be embarking on a campaign of arson with advanced incendiary technology brought to them by the IRA.

The fires, in a campaign against holiday homes. Until this week, activists protesting against English money depriving Welsh people of their homes have only doused anti-English slogans and blocked keyholes with quick-action glue.

It is possible that the fires could have been timed to coincide with today's rally at Cilmeri in mid-Wales where

nationalists will gather to commemorate the rout of Llewellyn ap Iorwerth, the last Welsh Prince of Wales, whose defeat effectively ended Welsh opposition to English rule.

The rally has been attended in the past by a young Welsh contingent and today plain-clothes officers will mingle with the marchers.

Forensic science experts spent much of yesterday sifting through the charred wreckage of the four homes, but they refused to say what kind of materials or devices were used to start the fires.

Police in Wales will pay special attention to holiday homes, most of which are owned by only a few weeks a year, but with more than 7,000 such retreats in Gwynedd alone, total surveillance is impossible.

Another possibility being investigated by police is that the arson was the first wave of a new campaign by Mudiad Amddiffyn Cymru (MAC)—The Movement to defend Wales—an organization formed in 1963, which has blown up many pipelines carrying water to England.

According to a recent article in the magazine *Curved* by a former leader of MAC who was jailed for his activities, the movement had as one of its chief members a person prominent in public life.

His article states, however: "Members of MAC are still in contact with each other, but they will not act again unless the Welsh people will them to do so." Leaders of the two main Welsh language organizations, Adfer and Cymdeithas Iaith Cymru (the Welsh Language Society) have denied any involvement by their members in the fires.

Mr Rhodri Williams, deputy chairman of Cymdeithas, said: "Our fight is against a home is dormant, because, as is quite obvious, we are concentrating on broadcasting and the policies of central Government."

One of the burnt homes is owned by Mr Robert Roberts, a Welsh-speaking Welshman, who lives in London. His wife said: "No one wanted it when we bought it. We were not taking it from other people at all. We spend about five months of the year there."

Check proposed cuts again, Treasury told

By Michael Hatfield

Treasury ministers have been told by Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, to undertake a thorough re-examination of previous proposals for further cuts in public expenditure.

The instruction emerged last night after the Prime Minister's speech to Tory backbenchers on Thursday when the impression was gained by Conservative MPs that Mrs Thatcher's thinking was not entirely four-square with what has been emanating from the Treasury in recent weeks.

Part of the argument is that whereas the Treasury has been saying that there is no room for further reductions in direct taxation, Mrs Thatcher's speech implied that something should be done for the lower paid.

Whitehall officials were saying last night that any differences, which may be more apparent than real, were over as a result of Mrs Thatcher's speech. But the essence of the discussions was to cut expenditure, reduce the public-sector borrowing requirement, bring down the recent increase in the minimum lending rate and, at the same time, meet other tax commitments to reduce taxation.

Whitehall officials were saying last night that the raising of the tax threshold for the lower paid was one of the proposals discussed in order to create incentives, but that was expensive.

Another way in which people could be encouraged to work was to tax unemployment benefits as part of annual earnings. The reference fixed closely to the Government's phrase that the "work-work syndrome".

It was emphasized that no decisions had been taken and that any taxation proposals were linked directly with the Government's determination to bring down the level of public expenditure in the coming year. The projected cuts would go beyond those outlined.

Ministers are to have more meetings to see where they can cut further on departmental expenditure. The cuts may form part of the cash limits for central Government which have yet to be announced.

The Government has stated that there is to be a 40,000 cut in the Civil Service over the next three years, and any more reductions would come on top of those.

The new round of cuts flows from the Prime Minister's statement to the backbenchers that "we have to look for bureaucracy and waste wherever it is".

Jobs scheduled for removal shows how paltry the exercise is. Sir Ian Bancroft, head of the Civil Service, has privately told departments that the reduction is 11,000 in the first year, 14,000 in the second, and the rest in the third.

The first year figure represents about 1.5 per cent of the total Civil Service Establishment and considering that there is a natural wastage of about 60,000 vacancies, being filled, it is clear that ministers have a considerable way to go before they will have any real impact on departmental savings.

Though there are strong rumblings among backbenchers over the need to honour manifesto pledges and increase incentives by reducing taxation, there is another group of liberal-minded MPs who are expressing private concern that the Chancellor, Sir Geoffrey Howe, QC, may have in mind reducing the public sector borrowing requirement even further in his next Budget.

Some of them, including one or two parliamentarians, are arguing that there is a strong case for increasing the public sector borrowing requirement next year to help the economy, but they realize that they are hanging their heads against the Treasury wall. However, there could be strong protests if there were any suggestion of a reduction.

European court upholds ban on pornography

By Our Legal Correspondent

The European Court of Justice in Luxembourg has ruled that an EEC member state is entitled to ban the import of pornography without violating the rules governing the free movement of goods within the European Community.

The ruling was given in a case referred to the European Court by the House of Lords. Mr Maurice Hena and Mr John Darby had appealed against their convictions for importing pornography on the ground that the customs legislation was in breach of the Treaty of Rome, which prohibited trade restrictions.

"The decision in Luxembourg means that the House of Lords will be able to decide on the men's appeals."

The European Court said that although Article 30 of the Treaty banned restrictions on imports, Article 36 allowed member states to impose prohibitions which were justified on the ground of public morality.

Governments could therefore lawfully ban articles of an indecent or obscene character, as understood by their domestic law.

Mr Atkins may yet save his power conference

From Christopher Thomas

Mr Humphrey Atkins, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, may be on the edge of an agreement that could save his proposed constitutional conference on power devolution.

The Rev Ian Paisley, leader of the Democratic Unionists, has accepted an invitation to meet Mr Atkins at Stormont Castle today, but there were doubts last night whether he would make it in time from Strabourgh, where he has been attending the European Parliament.

However, Mr John Hume, leader of the Social Democratic and Labour Party, will be there to see if the minister has anything more to offer on the critical issue of an Irish dimension being included in any devolution agreement.

It is widely assumed that today he will decide whether any meaningful conference can be arranged. There are suggestions that the Government might attempt to go ahead with only the Democratic Unionists and the Alliance Party, if forced to, in the hope of encouraging the SDLP and Official Unionists to join later.

The SDLP executive and constituency representatives will get a full report today from Mr Hume after his meeting with Mr Atkins and a decision whether to go in for a conference. If the conference was convened it would probably not start before the middle of next month.

It was learnt yesterday that the South Antrim management committee of the Official Unionists voted to ask the party leadership to reconsider its refusal to take part in the conference. The *Fermanagh* and *South Tyrone* Unionists Association also came out in support of the conference and said it would be dangerous not to be represented.

But there are no signs that there will be a change of heart. Mr Norman Hutton, secretary of the Official Unionists, said last night that he did not believe there would be a breakthrough group from the party over the issue, despite reports to the contrary.

"People have realized that there is no position for a small political party in Northern Ireland. You must operate from a position of strength."

Gun attack: Two men were wounded in a gun attack yesterday on the Sinn Féin world fair centre in the Falls Road, Belfast. Sinn Féin said the attack came soon after 20 prisoners' relatives, mostly women and children, had left in arranged transport for Long Kesh prison.

A statement said: "Six shots were fired through the security grills which surrounded the front of the building by a gunman operating from a black taxi. Two members of the welfare committee were hit in the legs as they moved for cover. The other four were not hurt or injured. Police patrols in the vicinity, although there was normally a large presence of security forces."

Tanker drivers' dispute could end on Monday

By Our Labour Staff

The Shell tanker drivers' dispute could be over by Monday. Five depots are to return to normal working on Monday and at the remaining two depots where workers are still suspended, meetings will be held on Monday morning.

Depots in North Fleet, Kent and Silvertown, east London, were among 14 where drivers and ancillary workers were suspended for refusing to co-operate with outside contract labour. With the exception of these two, workers at the other depots have agreed to work with contractors.

Peril and oil deliveries are returning to normal although it will be several days before all filling stations can be re-supplied.

Call for foreign students to pay in advance

By Our Education Correspondent

Britain should adopt the Australian system of charging overseas students, Sir Roy Marshall, Vice-Chancellor of Hull University, suggested yesterday. He gave a warning that under the proposed British system of full-cost fees, universities might have to reduce their intake of British students.

Speaking at the annual meeting of the Hull University, Sir Roy said that universities found the Government's proposals for overseas students' fees to be "unworkable".

The universities' views deserved to be treated with more respect than they had been accorded.

Over the past seven years, Hull had seen its student body increase by a third, while its expenditure on each student had fallen by 18 per cent in real terms. The additional economic imposed on the university could only be viewed with "the utmost apprehension".

However, it was important not merely to be critical but also to be constructive. Australia seemed to have found a way in which overseas students could be charged higher fees without turning universities into reluctant instruments for the collection of those fees.

Overseas students wishing to study in Australia would have to pay a substantial charge prior to the issue of a visa to enter the country and a further charge when they renewed their visas for the next year of their studies.

The charges would not be levied on overseas students who came to Australia under its development assistance programmes.

Bhutto son guilty of bomb hoax call

Shahnawaz Bhutto, the

son of Pakistan's former prime minister, Ali Bhutto was found guilty at the Inner London Crown Court yesterday of making a bomb telephone call.

Mr Bhutto, aged 21, of Lowndes Square, Chelsea, London, was conditionally discharged for two years and ordered to pay up to £1,000 prosecution costs for telling the operator there was a bomb at 10 Downing Street.

Journalists veto 141 pc

Provincial newspaper journalists have voted three to one to reject a 141 per cent pay offer, the National Union of Journalists said yesterday.

Royal film chosen

The American film, *Kramer vs Kramer*, with Dustin Hoffman and Meryl Streep, has been selected for the Royal Film Performance on March 17 in the presence of the Queen.

BBC man is jailed for £30,000 property thefts

A BBC cameraman stole more than £30,000 of property from his employers, it was stated at Knightsbridge Crown Court, London, yesterday. When the police searched his house to recover the stolen property an officer reported that "it was easier to take out what was not stolen than what was."

Neil Foster, aged 29, of Shenley Road, Shenley Church End, Buckinghamshire, was jailed for two years after he admitted stealing £32,500 property, mostly electronic and photographic equipment, from the BBC.

Mr Michael Bowley for the defence said Mr Foster had a

magpie mentality and did not steal for gain.

Mr Stephen Batten, for the prosecution, said Mr Foster's activities over four or five years came to light in August 1978, when a BBC studio was preparing for the World Cup final series.

A large quantity of equipment went missing, including a specialized generator worth £7,500 hired from a private company. After a tip-off, the generator was traced back to Mr Foster and his house was searched.

The police recovered a large quantity of BBC equipment from his house, garage, a shed and a caravan, counsel added.

Merchant seamen agree 24% pay deal in ballot

By David Felton

Britain's 30,000 merchant seamen have accepted a 24 per cent pay increase in a ballot. The new pay rates, which came into effect in January, mean that an able seaman's average earnings will rise from £98 a week to just under £125.

In a three-week ballot of members of the National Union of Seamen just over 9,000 voted in favour of the offer, with 3,700 against. There are traditionally low polls in seamen's ballots because of the difficulty in conducting ballots with most of the members out of the country.

The deal has angered the merchant navy officers who set

led for a 17½ per cent pay deal with five extra days leave which is estimated to be worth a further 1½ per cent. The Merchant Navy and Airline Officers' Association is negotiating with the shipping employers to increase the deal by consolidation of pay supplements.

The employers are due to reply to the claim in mid-January. Mr Eric Nevin, the union general secretary, described the offer to the seamen as "a slap in the face" coming only a short time after the employers had said they could not improve their offer to his members. He has appealed to the officers "to stay calm in the face of this latest provocation."

Tory policies 'have taken Britain back to 1930s'

A bleak picture of Britain's first Christmas under the leadership of Mrs Margaret Thatcher was painted last night by Mr Ron Hayward, the Labour Party general secretary.

In seven months, Mrs Thatcher had not only undone Labour's good work, but had also taken the country back to the 1930s, he said.

"A year ago we looked like licking our problems, or at least alleviating the worst effects of the 'international slump', he told the *Evening Standard* party.

"Millions of home owners had received a message of seasonal goodwill from the building societies, saying: 'Your mortgage interest rate has hit record heights: please pay up promptly.'"

Would-be home owners, whom Mrs Thatcher had promised substantial cash grants and maximum mortgages, were being told: "Sorry you can not get a mortgage from us."

He also lists: electricity up 12 per cent since the Tories took office and going up another 20 per cent in the spring; coal and gas up 8 per cent and gas likely to go up a further 50 per cent in the next two years; television licences up 145 a year on the average since 1974; and the cost of the last month alone: rail fares up by 20 per cent on January 6 and rumours of worse to come; telephone bills up about 145 per cent, after January 1, not to mention the second time in six months: value-added tax nearly doubled to 15 per cent.

"And you will be one of the lucky ones if the increase in your rates bill is as low as 22 per cent next spring," he said.

"Food budgets went up 3 per cent when the Tories sold out to big farming interests in Brussels last summer."

Inflation, which was at 8 per cent when Labour left office, was nearing 20 per cent.

Unemployment 10 years ago was about 500,000 and inflation running at about 5 per cent, Mr Hayward said. "Now, 10 years on, and despite the enormous advantage of North Sea oil, inflation is nearing the mark usually associated with big business and unemployment is near one and half million."

Tories feel that poll win encourages them

By Our Political Reporter

While the Conservatives were describing their success in the Hertfordshire South-West by-election as being a good Christmas tonic for Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, the fact remained that their majority in this blue-chip Tory stronghold was cut by more than a half.

While the heavy rain probably helped to reduce the total turnout to 48.28 per cent of the electorate, the overwhelming evidence suggests that many Conservative supporters stayed at home while Labour and Liberal voters turned out.

The new MP is Mr Richard Page, aged 38, an engineer who returned to Parliament having first been elected in 1976 in the Wokingham by-election. He lost that seat in the general election last May.

The by-election in Hertfordshire South-West was caused by the resignation of Mr Geoffrey Dodsworth for health reasons.

The result showed a 4.4 per cent swing to Labour, which was being treated as encouraging by the Conservatives. Lord the Conservative chairman of the party, said: "Just 12 days before Christmas the voters have demonstrated their solid endorsement of the tough but necessary measures taken by the Government to pull Britain



Mr Richard Page, new MP

back from absolute decline," he said.

A Labour Party official that the by-election was a reminder that Mrs Thatcher should rethink her disas policies.

Mr David Steel, Leader of the Liberal Party, said it was very gratifying to see that in this early stage of a Parliament the electorate had not been fooled by Tory claims to a genuine mandate for disastrous policies.

The result of the poll dealt at 2 am yesterday was: Page, R. (C) 1; Reeves, Mrs S. (Lab) 1; Clouston, D. (L); Jenkins, N. (Ecology); Bundy, D. (Anti-EEC); Pfooks, N. (Soton rug)

C majority 1

General election, May, 1979: C. H. Dodsworth (C) 33; G. J. Dodsworth (Lab) 16,781; Cass (L) 9,808; P. Graves (Lab); 839; C. majority 16,3

By-election result seen as comforting for big parties

By Ivor Crewe

All three parties can take some comfort from Thursday's spectacular by-election result. The Conservatives kept the swing against them down to 4.4 per cent, which is slightly below the national figure of 5 per cent to 6 per cent suggested in the polls, and not enough to guarantee Labour a parliamentary majority if it appeared in a general election.

The Liberals were the only party to increase their vote share, from 16 per cent to 24 per cent. At a time of such public disarray Labour will be relieved to have retained their May 1979 percentage.

How significant is a 4.4 per cent swing on seven seats after a general election? Comparisons with by-elections at similar stages of previous Conservative administrations suggest that support for this Government has begun to ebb occasionally quickly. Mr Macmillan's 1959-64 Government kept by-election swings down to 1.1 per cent in its first seven months, and the first two of the Heath government actually swung in the Conservatives.

A telling comparison is the Enfield West contest in November 1970, brought about by Mr Iain Macleod's death.

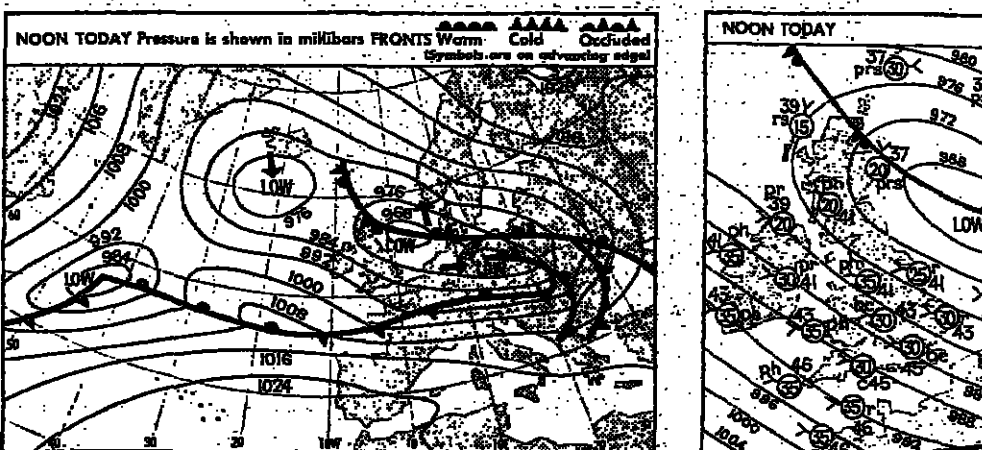
Like Hertfordshire South-West it was a prosperous London suburb; support the three parties distorted the result. Identically, turn-out plummeted at the election. But at Enfield swing was zero, and the Lib vote share fell by 0.5 per cent.

The fall in turn-out from per cent to 49 per cent is exceptional, even after the regular, dark evenings and weather are taken for account. It makes share-of-the-vote swing figures deceptive baiters of the parties' stam.

If instead one considers party's ability to keep its 1979 vote, the result looks more depressing. The argument: the Liberals retain 89 per cent, Labour 80 per cent, the Conservatives only per cent.

The resurgence of Lib support is reflected in the Gallup polls, which show a jump from 13 per cent since October. The not only the highest Lib figure since the October election, but a much faster revival than under the H. Government, where their standing stayed at about 10 per cent for three years. Thursday's suit might be unprecise but it is not entirely incor sive: the Liberals should smothering Conservative sooner than expected.

Weather forecast and recordings



Today	Tomorrow
Sun rises: 7.59 am Sun sets: 3.52 pm Moon rises: 3.13 am Moon sets: 2.02 pm	Sun rises: 8.00 am Sun sets: 3.52 pm Moon rises: 4.20 am Moon sets: 2.30 pm
New moon: December 19, 12.22 pm Full moon: December 23, 11.05 pm High water: London Bridge, 10.33 am, 5.8m (19.2ft); 11.05 pm, 6.2m (20.3ft) Low water: London Bridge, 1.38 am, 10.3m (33.9ft); 3.59 pm, 10.7m (35.2ft) Dover, 7.57 am, 5.7m (18.8ft); 1.38 am, 10.7m (35.2ft) Hull, 2.30 am, 6.0m (19.8ft); 3.10 pm, 6.2m (20.4ft) Liverpool, 8.11 am, 7.7m (25.3ft); 8.29 pm, 7.8m (25.7ft)	New moon: December 19, 12.22 pm Full moon: December 23, 11.05 pm High water: London Bridge, 11.26 am, 6.1m (20.0ft); 11.54 pm, 6.5m (21.3ft) Low water: London Bridge, 1.38 am, 10.3m (33.9ft); 3.59 pm, 10.7m (35.2ft) Dover, 7.57 am, 5.7m (18.8ft); 1.38 am, 10.7m (35.2ft) Hull, 2.30 am, 6.0m (19.8ft); 3.10 pm, 6.2m (20.4ft) Liverpool, 8.11 am, 7.7m (25.3ft); 8.29 pm, 7.8m (25.7ft)

Complex area of low pressure near E. Scotland.

Forecasts for 6 am to midnight: London, East Anglia, Midlands, SE Central, SW England, Wales, Channel Islands: Bright intervals and scattered showers, perhaps hail, sleet or snow on hills; wind, strong or gale, locally severe gale in exposed parts at first; max temp 7°C to 9°C (45°F to 48°F).

Lake District, Isle of Man, Borders, E. Scotland, NE England, W. Ireland: Gale or severe gale, occasionally storm force; sea, very rough.

30-day forecast

The Meteorological Office has issued the following 30-day forecast: Generally unsettled weather is expected over the next four weeks, often with strong W winds. While one or two spells of rather cold weather are likely, some turn-

Overseas selling prices

Australia 61.50, Austria 8.00, Belgium 8.00, Canada 8.00, Denmark 8.00, France 8.00, Germany 8.00, Greece 8.00, Hong Kong 8.00, India 8.00, Italy 8.00, Japan 8.00, Korea 8.00, Malaysia 8.00, Mexico 8.00, Netherlands 8.00, New Zealand 8.00, Norway 8.00, Portugal 8.00, Singapore 8.00, South Africa 8.00, Spain 8.00, Sweden 8.00, Switzerland 8.00, Taiwan 8.00, Thailand 8.00, Turkey 8.00, U.K. 8.00, U.S.A. 8.00, West Germany 8.00, Yugoslavia 8.00

HOME NEWS

MP alleges 'cloak of secrecy and fear' over clash at prison

By Peter Evans

Home Affairs Correspondent

Evidence of growing trouble in prisons included accusations yesterday that prison officers were dictating policy to a "craven" Home Office, which had also sought to silence individuals speaking out about tough new action against protesting prisoners.

Speaking of a "cloak of secrecy and fear", Mr Alexander Lyon, Labour MP for York and a former Home Office minister, called in a letter to the Home Secretary for a public inquiry into trouble at Wormwood Scrubs which resulted in injuries to 54 prisoners and 11 prison officers.

Mr Robert Kilroy-Silk, Labour MP for Ormskirk, and chairman of two parliamentary bodies, the All-Party Prison Affairs Group and the Parliamentary Civil Liberties Group, said the Home Office should withdraw its demands for the resignation of Mr Jonathan Pollitzer and Miss Kay Douglas-Scott as voluntary workers at Wormwood Scrubs. Pressure was brought to bear on them after they broadcast about the violence.

Mr Kilroy-Silk also said that the refusal of prison officers at Pucklechurch to allow Mr Rodney Morgan, a member of the Board of Visitors, to carry out his legal duties was a gross abuse of power.

Last night Mr Kenneth Daniel, general secretary of the Prison Officers' Association, said: "It is nonsense to say the POA is dictating policy in prisons."

At a meeting at Chester, Mr Kilroy-Silk linked the action by prison officers. He said the Scottish prison officers had passed a resolution preventing children from visiting their parents and members of the POA at Broadmoor. He had prevented discharged patients from visiting their consultant, welfare officers and patient friends. Members of the association, he said, forced the closure of the visitor centre at Pentonville. Family visits were still being pre-

vented at Styal. Free access to Wakefield prison by probation officers and welfare officers had been prevented.

He called on Mr Whitelaw to publish full details of illegal action by prison officers and urged him to reassert control over the service.

Mr Lyon, chairman of the Labour Campaign for Criminal Justice, has told Mr Whitelaw of his concern at revelations that a specially equipped squad of prison officers, armed with riot shields and clubs, had attacked a peaceful demonstration in Wormwood Scrubs on August 31, had injured many prisoners and had destroyed prisoners' property.

He said his letter was not a call for persecution of individual officers. The indications were that the prison department had adopted in secrecy a brutal policy with the formation and use of the squad.

Mr Daniel, of the association, said last night that comment could not be made directly about the Wormwood Scrubs incident because an official inquiry was proceeding. Generally, however, the riot at Hull prison in 1976 has made it obvious that officers should be trained more in the handling of disturbances which could, as happened there and at Gartree, develop into serious violence with dangerous missiles being hurled at officers.

At Broadmoor, he said, officers with protective clothing and shields when it was deemed necessary. Teams of officers at a number of establishments had received training in the minimum use of force for enforcement of any neighbouring prison when appropriate.

Football club to pay £25 damages over dismissal

Mr Freddie Goodwin, the former Birmingham City manager, failed yesterday in his High Court claim for damages over his dismissal by the club in 1975.

He forfeited his right to damages by setting up his own company, Freddie Goodwin Ltd, to handle his business affairs. Mr Justice Goffman ruled it was the company that was under contract to the club.

The judge ruled that the company was entitled to nominal damages of £25 for the club's breach of contract in dismissing Mr Goodwin, was criticized by

the judge for the way it went about it.

He said Mr Goodwin was summoned by his employers "like a schoolboy sent for by his headmaster" and suffered the indignity of being told that Willie Bell, the coach, was to have his job.

The judge added: "I have no sympathy with Birmingham. They broke the contract and did so in a particularly nasty way."

Of Mr Goodwin, whose contract had two years to run when he was dismissed, the judge said: "I am satisfied that he served Birmingham City excellently as manager and did nothing to deserve being relieved of his position summarily."

Inquest told of paratroop aircraft flaw

From Our Correspondent

A witness effect created by the engines on the RAF's usual paratroop aircraft can draw parachutists together as they fall, an inquest was told yesterday.

A vortex of turbulent air is created by the inboard engines on the C-130 Hercules, and that can cause collisions between troops as they leave the two side doors of the aircraft.

Normally the men separate and make safe descents. Squadron Leader Ronald Mitchell, of RAF Cosford, Warwickshire, told an inquest at Salisbury, Wiltshire, yesterday.

But Lance Corporal Robert Vanden, aged 19, of Preston, and Private James Loughney, aged 23, of Blackburn, both Lancashire, became entangled in a collision known in Army slang as a "daisy chain". They both belonged to the 1st Battalion of The Parachute Regiment.

One man's parachute "stole" the air from his comrade's, both canopies deflated and the men plunged 850ft to their deaths. Earlier the inquest had been told that the procedure for dispatching the men from opposite doors of the Hercules, had got out of synchronization.

The Ministry of Defence has since altered the procedure to ensure that troops never again leave from different doors.

Recording misadventure ver-
dicts in both cases, Mr George Lush, the Wiltshire coroner, said: "I am quite satisfied that all the proper procedures were carried out."

The MP, charged under his

Prince's ride on a camel is shown to court

The exploits of the Prince of Wales and Captain Mark Phillips trying to ride camels at Olympia on Thursday night were shown in a video recording to Mr Justice Cantley in the High Court yesterday.

The recording taken at the International Show Jumping Championships was produced by evidence by lawyers for Dorothy Tutin, the actress, who is claiming damages over back injuries she suffered in a fall from a camel during a charity race at Olympia in December, 1976.

The judge also watched a television interview, given by the Prince of Wales after Thursday night's race, in which he said he thought camels were "petrifying". Asked if he

would be tempted to get on a camel again, he replied: "Not after that."

Miss Tutin, aged 49, said she suffered two broken vertebrae in her accident. She is suing the Prince of Wales and his wife, Lady Diana, for £100,000.

Miss Chipperfield told the court yesterday that the camel race was intended to be an exciting laughter event. Before Miss Tutin's accident the camels had been out racing about 200 times.

Although some people had deliberately fallen off to get a laugh, there had been no accidents. Nor had there been any accidents since.

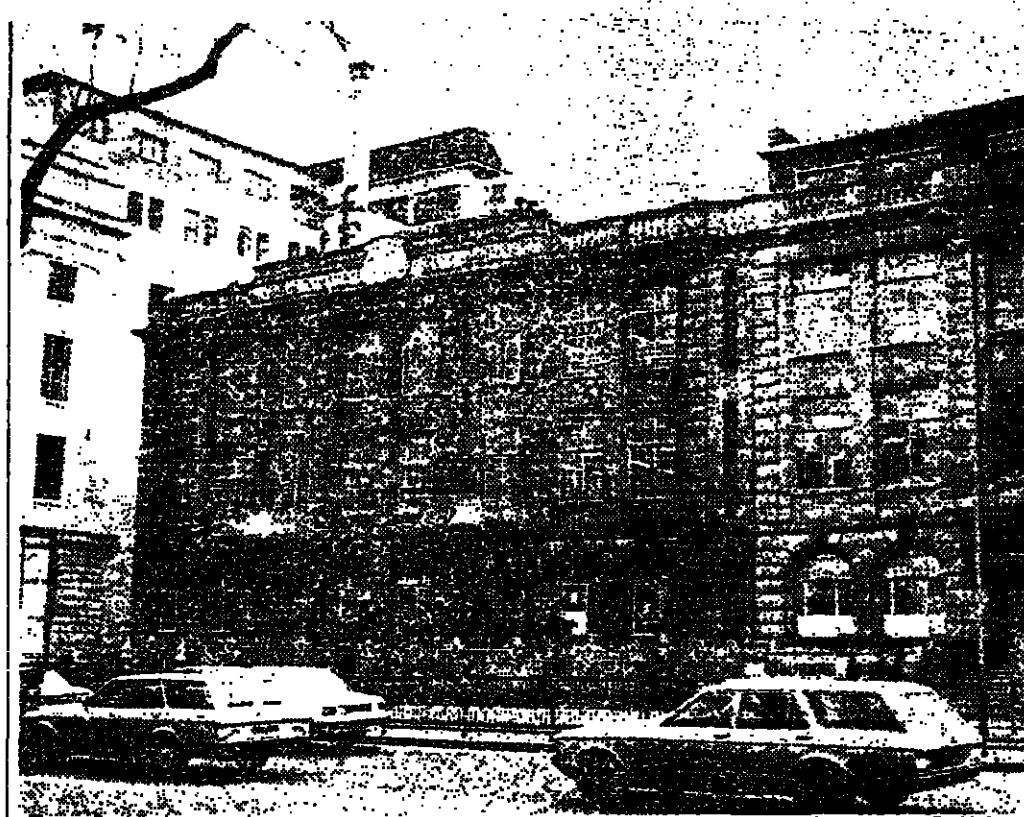
The hearing continues next Monday.

Ban on MP who drove the wrong way on the M6

Six weeks before he became a Conservative MP, John Heddle, of Duke Street, London, pleaded guilty to driving the wrong way on the M6 motorway for seven miles before being stopped by the police, magistrates at Colshill, Warwickshire, were told yesterday.

Mr Heddle, aged 38, MP for Lichfield and Tamworth, was going to Birmingham while thinking he was travelling to London, it was stated. His Ford Capri drove north in the fast lane of the southbound carriageway.

The MP, charged under his



Unity House, headquarters of the National Union of Railwaysmen.

Campaign to save rail union office

By John Young

Planning Reporter

A campaign is likely to be launched to prevent the impending demolition of Unity House, the headquarters of the National Union of Railwaysmen, in Euston Road, London.

An attempt some months ago to have the building listed as of architectural and historic interest was rejected by the Department of the Environ-

ment.

Although not included in guidebooks, Unity House is a landmark building dating from the great age of the railways before the First World War, a time when the area was chosen for several other union offices as convenient for members arriving by train from the North and Midlands.

Among its attractive features are the iron railings containing motifs of early steam engines. The building is faced in granite and decorated internally with stained glass and panelling.

Detailed planning permission for a building on the site was granted by Camden Council this year. Demolition is scheduled to begin in March and the union has arranged to move to temporary premises nearby for about two years.

A union official said yesterday that the decision to replace the historic headquarters had been taken with great reluctance. But the building had been extended twice, with the result that much of the interior consisted of wells, staircases and corridors.

The high-ceilinged rooms were difficult to heat and working conditions for staff were noisy and uncomfortable. The union had sought professional advice on whether the structure could be retained and renovated, but had been told it was impracticable.

Only part of the new building would be required for the union's use and the rest would be let to tenants. It was intended to incorporate as many as possible of the present building's interior features, notably the paneled boardroom.

At the time of talking to Miss Baxter yesterday there had been arranged throughout the country 14,910 Blue Peter bring-and-buy sales. Reports of their success as a fund-raising medium—and where else asks Miss Baxter, do they have bring-and-buy sales except in Britain?—have brought inquiries from Japan and West Germany wanting to know how to organize them.

Miss Baxter is upset at suggestions that the appeal diverted funds from home charities such as Bernard's and Help the Aged. It is "squalid" to make a battlefield out of people most in need, she says.

Mr Simon Groom, one of the programme's presenters, was filming in the Scottish Highlands this week when a group of children from some remote villages arrived to hand over cheques for £1,000.

Announcing the joint decision of the education committee and the general purpose subcommittee, yesterday, Mr Anthony Gilham, said that the county had to achieve a 5 per cent reduction in its education budget next year.

Devon has decided to increase its school meal charges to 45p in April. From September, full-cost cafeteria snacks will be introduced into secondary schools while the cost of a meal in primary and special schools will go up to 50p. Free meals and milk will be provided for children in poor families.

All other free milk is to be stopped. Devon education committee decided against introducing general charges for school transport. Where a child chooses to use school transport, though he lives within statutory walking distance of the school, a charge of £5 a term will be made.

The Kent and Devon decisions have to be ratified by the full county council.

He said that more screening of mothers-to-be would help to combat the difficulties. Improvements in ante-natal care would help to detect small babies.

The BMA conference on caring for children also heard of the difficulties of caring for Asian communities in Britain.

Dr Angus Ford who works in Glasgow hospitals, said that between 1970-75 about 90 cases of Asian children were reported. Specialists believe the rate of these immigrant communities has been an important factor in causing the disease. Education of the parents was one of the most effective ways of prevention.

The Council of Environmental Ministers' meeting in Brussels on Monday and is expected to endorse the new plan for the environment.

Mr William Newton Dunn (Lincolnshire, Ed.) proposing that the reduction should be only 30 per cent rather than the 50 per cent next year, said it was almost impossible to measure the bronze layer and there was no firm evidence that CFC was affecting it. However, it would be a wise precaution to reduce its use by 30 per cent rather than 50 per cent by world experts last month at a United Nations conference.

There were 18 European 200 small filling stations in the country, but only one in the north. It was not clear if it was to be built in the north or not.

'Blue Peter' Kampuchea appeal raises £2.4m

By Kenneth Gostling

Twice a week Oxfam gives the staff of the BBC television programme, Blue Peter, a lesson in the history of the world. The programme, launched on November 1 with an initial target of £100,000, which is all they thought viewers would be able to raise.

This week the figure from bring-and-buy sales throughout the country, and from donations that have continued to flood in, has reached £2,420,495. Miss Biddy Baxter, the editor of the programme, is confident that the final target of £3m will be achieved by Christmas eve.

Judging by the number of Blue Peter stickers distributed to people taking part in the sales, something like 11 million have contributed, either in cash or kind.

The money has bought 44 eight-ton lorries to distribute supplies; 210,000 hoses; 1,000 fishing nets; 3,500 tons of rice

seed; 1,500 tons of fertilizer; 32 tons of cotton yarn; 27,000 gallons of diesel fuel, and 1,000 doses of vaccine.

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Schools feel effects of cash cuts

By Our Education Correspondent

The cost of a school meal in Kent is to go up from 30p to 40p in April, and 50p in September. Free school meals will be provided only for children in families in receipt of supplementary benefit or family income supplement.

Free milk is to be withdrawn in all but medical cases and at special schools. School transport will be charged at a flat rate to cover the cost of the first two miles of transport for primary school children and the first three miles for secondary school children.

Education visits and school journeys are to be cut by 50 per cent. Charges are to be introduced for instrumental music teaching to raise £27,000 a year. Reductions in swimming lessons are expected to save £136,000. Library fines will be increased.

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'Statesman' jury case judgment is deferred

By Trevor Fishlock

The central question in the case in which the Attorney General seeks to have the New Statesman interview with a Thorpe trial juror declared a contempt of court is whether the article interfered with the administration of justice, it was agreed by both sides in the High Court yesterday.

Judgment will be given in the next term.

Mr Andrew Collins, for the Attorney General, said that disclosure of juryroom secrets did amount to an interference. Everyone would say it was undesirable. The disclosure in the New Statesman case was to prove a point—that the Director of Public Prosecutions should have handled the Thorpe case differently—but the point could have been made without interviewing the juror.

It was true that interviews with jurors had been published over a number of years without the law on contempt being invoked. But, Mr Collins added, the concept of disclosure being an interference with the administration of justice was relatively new; and it was felt necessary to use now.

Mr Robert Robertson, for the New Statesman, said that no interference had been proved. There had been no pressure put on the juror, no money had been offered to him, he had not been threatened and there had been no distortion.

The New Statesman was a respected political and literary journal, he said, and published the interview as part of its analysis and comment on political and legal issues. It had no axe to grind and no stake in the trial. The article did not diminish respect for the jury system; rather it enhanced it.

There was no distortion of judge or jury and the article was not an encouragement to jurors to speak out.

He added: "This is a criminal case against the New Statesman and intention must be proved beyond reasonable doubt. The Attorney General has not done so."

Lord Widgery, the Lord Chief Justice, sitting with Mr Justice Park, said he would give judgment next term.

Call for extra specialists to care for babies

From Our Correspondent

More specialists in caring for newborn babies are urgently needed in the West of Scotland, a professor said yesterday. Babies under 5lb 10oz in weight, he added, had a better chance of survival in the east of Scotland than in the west.

Professor Malcolm MacNaughton, Mulholland professor of obstetrics and gynaecology at Glasgow University, said that babies under 5lb 10oz in weight had a better chance of survival in the east of Scotland than in the west.

He told the British Medical Association Scottish Council in Edinburgh that many of the reasons for that were related to the difficulties of caring for babies under 5lb 10oz in weight. There were not enough specialists in the west; only one where there should be three. Glasgow was suffering particularly badly.

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Mr William Newton Dunn (Lincolnshire, Ed.) proposing that the reduction should be only 30 per cent rather than the 50 per cent next year, said it was almost impossible to measure the bronze layer and there was no firm evidence that CFC was affecting it. However, it would be a wise precaution to reduce its use by 30 per cent rather than 50 per cent by world experts last month at a United Nations conference.

There were 18 European 200 small filling stations in the country, but only one in the north. It was not clear if it was to be built in the north or not.

He said that more screening of mothers-to-be would help to combat the difficulties. Improvements in ante-natal care would help to detect small babies.

The BMA conference on caring for children also heard of the difficulties of caring for Asian communities in Britain.

Dr Angus Ford who works in Glasgow hospitals, said that between 1970-75 about 90 cases of Asian children were reported. Specialists believe the rate of these immigrant communities has been an important factor in causing the disease. Education of the parents was one of the most effective ways of prevention.

PARLIAMENT, Dec 14, 1979

MPs consider banks could do more to help small firms

House of Commons

If small businesses were given sufficient encouragement—not fiscal disincentives—they would provide the jobs and prosperity for the future, Mr Anthony Speller (North Devon, C) said when opening a debate on their problems.

He moved that the Government consider appointing an unpaid anomalies commission to identify the illogical legislation that imposed a burden upon small businesses and voluntary services.

He said the Sunday trading laws were full of anomalies. No one could buy a table in a shop on a Sunday but people could buy pornography in a shop. Anyone could sell aircraft on a Sunday but not a car. If they sold fresh meat.

This is the kind of petty anomaly we have to change (he said) otherwise we will be strangled by it.

He was not seeking to alter the laws of the land but there was a need to have the anomalies cleared up.

Mr Guy Barnett (Greenwich, Lab) said banks and other financial institutions were generally unhelpful and in many cases incompetent in dealing with small businesses. He called for employment development officers that banks would rarely, if ever, give more than a token interest for the expansion of a small firm.

Financial institutions handling enormous sums from pension funds and the like were prepared to risk a small proportion in a flatter because they were incompetent and lacked the specialist knowledge and experience of what was or was not a good investment.

Mr Jack Astor (Kingswood, C), in a maiden speech, said that there were tremendous resources available to enable a substantial shift in the way the economy was run. The voluntary sector of welfare services.

Encouragement should be provided by the State to encourage and increase of grant aid to voluntary societies. The nation could be proud of its voluntary workers.

Mr Stephen Ross (Leeds of Wight, L) said the banks should get together and make an offer to small business. The entrepreneur, with a pool of perhaps £150m. Banks had people with the expert knowledge to look at things and get them sorted. They could offer help and money and have a share in the equity. If they could not do that, they deserved to be nationalised.

Mr John Brown (Whitechapel, C) thanked the Government for what it was trying to do and for what it had done. He urged it to press ahead with other improvements such as on taxation and rates, employment protection legislation, unfair state competition, planning procedures and planning guidelines, venture capital and loan guarantees.

Mr Stuart Holland (Lambeth, Labour, Lab) said that to avoid further acceleration of small firm deaths, there must be a cooperative formula by which the entrepreneur could transfer it to the workforce or to a municipal enterprise under a system of workers' control.

Mr Archibald Hamilton (Epsom and Ewell, C) said that legislative steps should be taken to provide that no new firm should be created in any business and

that all closed shops be banned in any employing fewer than 100 people.

Mr John Fraser, an Opposition spokesman on trade, (Lambeth, Northwood, Lab) said small businesses were getting the message that a Tory Government was no friend.

For them, the Government's policies had been calamitous.

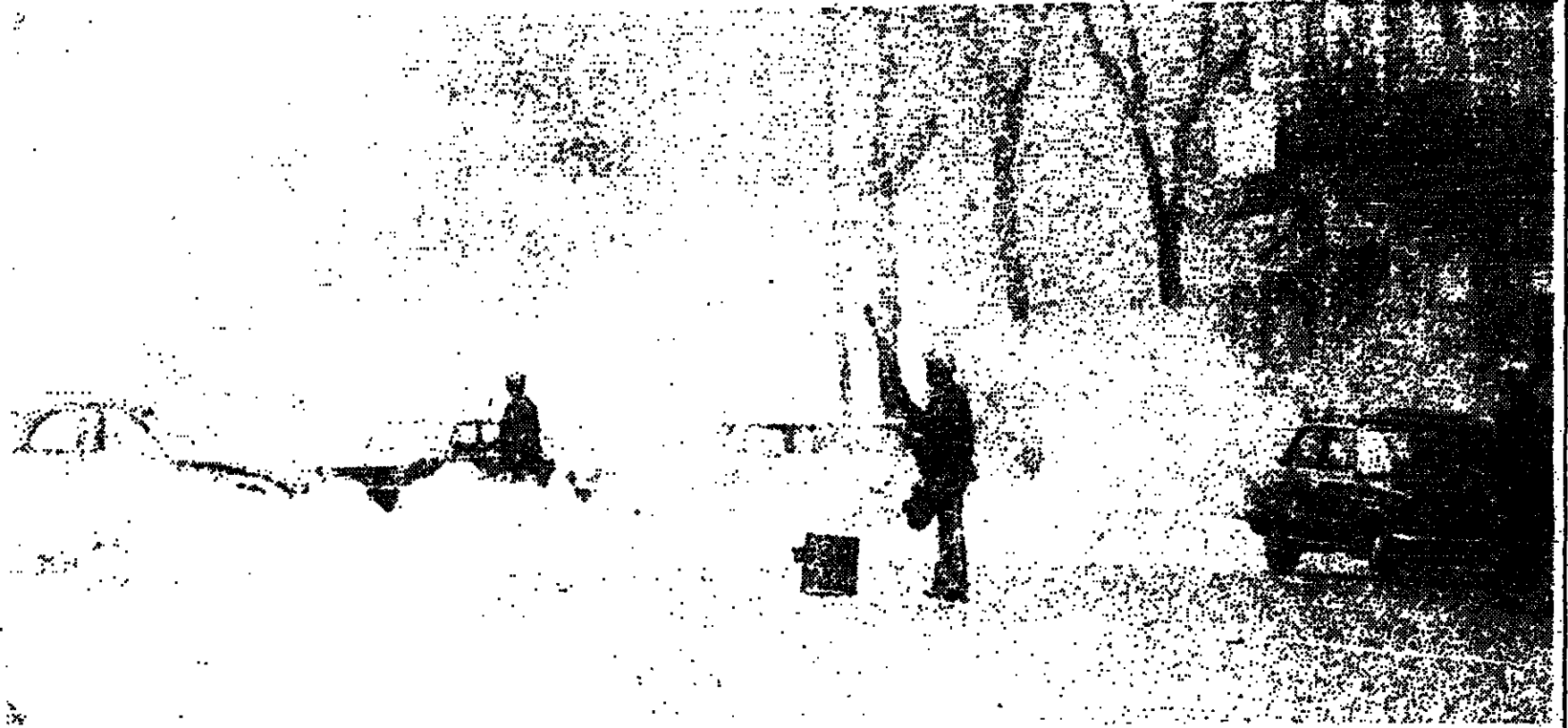
A greater degree of Government intervention was needed. What the small firm complained of was financial disadvantage compared with the large firm. The only way to deal with this was to give preferential more favourable tax treatment to the small rather than the large firm and to provide a more advantageous source of finance than the small firm had at the present time.

The main problem was access to loan capital so that small firms could grow.

Mr Graham Bright (Luton, East, C) said they should consider the possibility of introducing a statutory code of practice applied by the Treasury to ensure that Inland Revenue and Customs and Excise inspectors had to go through proper procedures, especially in VAT cases.

The way in which the small businesses were the burden of taxation and availability of credit. Mr John Major (Huntingdonshire, C) said that the Government would not bury the interim Wilson report on the financing of small firms. It recommended that the main problem was the lack of a fully underwritten loan guarantee scheme with a limited subsidy element and some part of the risk should be set up on an experimental basis.

WEST EUROPE



Smoke bomb clouds over a Madrid street after two young men were shot dead by police in Thursday's riot.

Street riot deaths bring out Madrid crowds in protest

From Harry Debelius

Madrid, Dec. 14. The fatal shooting of two young men by police in Thursday's riot brought out a large crowd of protesters in the city today.

The two killed by gun-fire were identified as Emilio Martínez Menéndez, who was 20 and José Luis Monreal Gil, aged 23.

A number of people were injured in the rioting and 17 were taken into custody.

The shootings led to more demonstrations today in which at least eight people were injured by nightfall in the town of Alcala de Henares, near Madrid.

In Madrid itself 12 militants of the Revolutionary Communist League, who were taking part in an unauthorized demonstration, were arrested.

About 200,000 people attended the trade union demonstration yesterday called by the Communist Workers' Commission, Spain's biggest union, and others workers' organizations.

They marched in protest against a "workers' statute" a Bill regulating labour relations which was debated yesterday, and again today, in a plenary session of Parliament.

The dead men had no connection with the demonstration, but were believed to be among about 500 people protesting against proposed legislation on university affairs who harassed the police lining the route of the authorized march.

There had been skirmishes between students and the police. An assortment of extreme left-wing parties, none of them big enough to be represented in Parliament, joined the

four patrolmen from the national police force — repelled the attackers by opening fire.

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British deterrent will be left out of Salt 3

From Henry Stanhope

Defence Correspondent

Brussels, Dec. 14

Nato which earlier this week approved a new arms control initiative to the Soviet Union, will not put any pressure on Britain to offer its own Polaris deterrent for negotiation.

Despite the recent attempt by Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, to resurrect the claim that British and French forces should be included in the strategic arithmetic, the possibility was not even discussed during the five days of meetings here at Nato headquarters.

Dr Joseph Luns, Nato's secretary-general, made clear at a final press conference here today that the Strategic Arms Limitation talks (Salt 3), at which the new Nato proposals are to be presented, will remain a Soviet-American affair in which only the nuclear weapons of the super powers will be involved.

Meanwhile, the United States will contact the Russians as soon as possible to relay the Alliance's proposals, which accompanied the plan to station 572 new nuclear weapons in Western Europe. The decision to deploy these missiles was also approved on Wednesday.

But the first concrete result of this week's Nato meetings will come on Monday, when the West will table a proposal for mutual balanced force reductions (MBFR).

Sources confirmed today that the main feature of the plan is

a phase one withdrawal of 30,000 Soviet and 13,000 American troops.

So much talk of arms control, coupled with the broad agreement shown by the Alliance on Wednesday, has made it a good week for Nato's image.

Even the Soviet response to the Nato decision to station new nuclear weapons in West Europe, has been less severe than expected here.

The general feeling is that they were taken by surprise by the Alliance's display of political will, as was Nato itself.

The final communiqué, issued after the meeting of foreign ministers, welcomed the agreement reached here. The ministers, it said, looked forward to the day when an independent Republic of Zimbabwe would take its place as a full member of the international community.

But the communiqué was more concerned with the achievements of Brussels than London. It said that ministers were determined that the 1980s should see a fundamental change for the better in the situation between East and West. The programme of action envisaged by Nato offers the best opportunity for creating more constructive relations.

The communiqué went on to say that the ministers "considered that the programme represents a major new opportunity for the countries of the Warsaw Pact to translate into action the interest they have signalled in improving the situation in Europe.

French left pressed by Communists to resist

From Charles Hargrove

Paris, Dec. 14

The French Communist Party may no longer take its orders from Moscow, as was the case in the heyday of Stalinism, but it remains much more on the same wavelength.

Witness the great offensive the Communist Party's Politburo has launched against the Nato decision to modernize theatre nuclear forces in West Europe, and its appeal to all left-wing parties and trade union organizations to a "popular counter-attack" to thwart it.

"This decision of extreme gravity constitutes a real challenge to the European peoples", the appeal says. "The Nato decision, prepared by a formidable poisonous campaign about the 'alleged Soviet military superiority' is, in fact, aimed at reinforcing American domination over Europe, at designating our continent as a nuclear battlefield, while American soil would be spared."

It was hostile to peace and peaceful coexistence, and prejudicial to the economic development of nations and the improvement of the standard of living of the people.

"The stationing of such an arsenal on the frontiers of France constitutes a grave threat to the French people and nation", the appeal goes on.

It is therefore "up to the workers and the patriots of our country to take rapidly the initiative of the struggle", and to say no to the deployment of American missiles in Europe.

They must demand the immediate opening of negotiations on the reduction of nuclear and conventional weapons.

M Georges Marchais, the Secretary-General of the Communist Party, has written to leaders of socialist parties and trade union organizations to invite them to a meeting tomorrow to prepare a common reaction to the Nato decision.

The position of the French Government on the deployment of American theatre nuclear missiles was spelled out in the National Assembly by M. François Poncelet, the Foreign Minister, in answer to a question by a Communist deputy. M. Bernard Deschamps claimed that the Government's policy was to "oppose such missiles were linked to Salt 2 type negotiations and did not concern France's independent deterrent, was not acceptable."

"I call upon you to respond to the pressing appeal of our people by opposing this American project and to take an immediate initiative to propose to the signatories of the Helsinki agreement a negotiation on the freezing of existing weapons systems," he said.

M Poncelet replied that France was not called upon to take a stand on the modernization of weapons of an organization of which it was not a part. "To do so would be to put our finger in the works. I had not understood it was the Communist Party's wish we should do so."

Europe's highest cable-car railway opens

From Our Correspondent

Geneva, Dec. 14

Europe's highest cable-car railway opens this weekend. It runs from Trockenener Steg (8,846 ft), above Zermatt, to a peak of the Little Matterhorn, at 12,530 ft.

At the top station a 560ft tunnel provides access to the Testa Grigia skiing area below the Matterhorn, and the cable connects the station with an observation platform at 12,367ft.

Despite strong environmentalist opposition, construction began in 1973. Materials for the cable and steel were transported by helicopter. Four flights were needed for every square yard of reinforced concrete which was prepared down at Trockenener Steg with hot water to which anti-freeze had been added.

Until now Europe's highest cable-railway station has been the Aiguille du Midi (12,464 ft) in the Mont Blanc massif.

Nato nuclear plan 'kills talks basis'

From Michael Binyon

Moscow, Dec. 14

In the first authoritative Soviet comment on Nato's decision to deploy new medium-range missiles in West Europe, the Director-General of Tass said tonight the decision had killed the basis for further arms talks.

Mr Sergei Losev said in a signed commentary: "It must be stated with a full sense of responsibility that by their decision on the deployment of American missiles in West Europe, the NATO countries have destroyed the basis for talks that had existed."

"There will be no talks on the Nato basis 'from positions of strength and not from positions of weakness' as the Soviet Union has said."

The Nato Council, he added, assumed grave responsibility for a new round of the arms race.

Mr Losev described the decision as "dangerous to the cause of peace and international détente", and said it was adopted at a time when, objectively speaking, there was no need to raise the level of military confrontation on the Continent.

He said Nato had ignored the Soviet Union's constructive initiatives. Its communiqué, justifying the decision by referring to a supposed substantial expansion in Soviet tactical nuclear forces, turned the facts upside down. During the past 10 years, he asserted, the medium-range nuclear weapon carriers in the west of the Soviet Union were not increased by a single missile or warhead.

"On the contrary, the number of launchers of medium-range missiles, as well as the yield of the nuclear warheads of these missiles were even somewhat decreased."

The article rejected arguments about the defensive nature of the measures by stating that they were all part of an aggressive long-range American military programme that was adopted in 1975. The decision to modernize medium-range nuclear missiles was taken in 1975, before there were any Soviet SS20 missiles. The Nato constant therefore was "out-and-out hypocrisy."

Mr Losev said the programme was based on an offensive strategy, directed against the Soviet Union and the Middle East, Asia and Latin America.

Referring to the Nato hope of pursuing talks with the Soviet Union, Mr Losev said: "In an attempt to deceive public opinion, Nato officials are trying to create the impression that now they are coming out almost as initiators of negotiation."

In one they were spotted by security men and fled empty-handed. In the second raid, police said about eight bandits dressed in work overalls burst into Fiat's Rivalta press shop and made off with wages.

Fin factories and employees have for several years been a target for urban guerrillas, Reuter.

OVERSEAS

Rhodesian police raid Salisbury offices of Mr Nkomo's party

From Nicholas Ashford

Salisbury, Dec. 14

A number of important policy decisions can be expected to be taken by Lord Soames, the British Governor of Southern Rhodesia, during the course of the coming week if agreement is reached on a ceasefire in London this weekend.

One of his first acts, it was made clear today, will be to lift the ban on the Patriotic Front and its two political wings, Mr Joshua Nkomo's Zimbabwe African People's Union (Zapu) and Mr Robert Mugabe's Zimbabwe African National Union (Zanu). The organizations were banned by the Salisbury Government over a year ago and have remained proscribed since the arrival of Lord Soames two days ago.

This has already given rise to resentment in the anti-apartheid circles and has led to allegations that Lord Soames and the British were favouring the internal black political parties, particularly Bishop Abubakar Muzorewa's United African National Council (UNAC).

These suspicions were reinforced today when the police raided the Salisbury offices of Zapu and seized pictures of Mr Nkomo. They also briefly detained Mr Cephas Msaipa, Zapu's local representative for questioning.

Mr Msaipa said later that he had been charged with holding illegal political meetings. However, police said he had only been interviewed and not charged.

Other decisions which are likely to be implemented soon after a ceasefire has been agreed will be the cessation of hanging of people convicted of political offences and the release of the remaining political detainees.

British sources said today that cases involving death sentences and convictions were already being reviewed. It was understood there are over 100 people awaiting execution. No hangings have taken place since Lord Soames's arrival.

Another matter which is already receiving Lord Soames's attention and on which early decision can be expected is the lifting of the embargo on maize supplies to Zambia.

The ban was imposed by the Salisbury Government during the Lancaster House talks in 1979 to curb infiltration by Mr Nkomo's guerrillas from Zambia into Rhodesia and also to impress on President Kaunda, the Zambian head of state, the need to ensure that the country's foreign policy was consistent with the principles of the Lusaka Agreement.

British sources today refused to comment on reports that the Governor had called on Mr Nkomo to accept a ceasefire and to allow the Rhodesian security forces. However, it is understood that the absence of any major actions by the security forces since the arrival of Lord Soames is a sign

that he has made it clear he will not tolerate any military action which could jeopardize or delay the ceasefire talks.

Yesterday, Lord Soames held talks with Air Marshal Mick McLaren, Acting Commander of Combined Operations, and will shortly be seeing Lieutenant-General Peter Walls, the Rhodesian military chief, who returned from London today.

However, despite the absence of any major actions, the war has continued to take its toll on the black and white population. Combined Operations Headquarters announced today that a white civilian, 23 black civilians and 11 guerrillas had been killed during the past 24 hours.

Until there is a ceasefire Lord Soames will retain an overall responsibility for the security of the country. Only when there has been an agreement in London will he be able to assume the role of arbitrator between the security forces and the Patriotic Front armies.

At a press conference this afternoon, Major-General John Acland, the Governor's military adviser and the man who will be in charge of the 1,200-strong Commonwealth ceasefire monitoring force, confirmed that there was a small South African military presence in Rhodesia. He said it consisted of less than 1,000 men, although there were also South Africans and other foreigners serving as "attested individuals" in the Rhodesian security forces.

The general, who neatly fielded a number of difficult questions by replying with cricketing metaphors, would not be drawn on what would happen to the South Africans once there is a ceasefire.

However, it is understood that Britain has been given assurances there will be no "foreign interventionist" forces, or involvement from outside Rhodesia during the ceasefire.

General Acland made it clear that his task was to organize the ceasefire and not to command the Rhodesian Army. At the moment there is only one British major attached to Rhodesian Combined Operations Headquarters and his task is to prepare for the monitoring of the ceasefire.

At the same press conference, a British spokesman said Lord Soames had meetings during the day with a number of outgoing ministers.

The Rev Njabangani Sithole, rival wing of Zanu today, presented a petition to Government. It called on Lord Soames to make a series of changes in electoral procedures to ensure that there was not a repetition of the "irregularities" which Zanu claimed took place during last April's election.

Meanwhile, Bishop Muzorewa's party suffered a serious blow today with the announcement that Mr George Nyandoro, former Minister of Lands, Natural Resources and Rural Development, was leaving politics.

Envoys in Europe recalled by Tehran

Tehran, Dec. 14.—Iran's

bassadors to France, West Germany and Scandinavian countries have been recalled for consultations with Mr Sac Ghabadze, the Foreign Minister.

The brief announcement from Iran's Foreign Ministry gave no reason, however, for the recall, but it was noted that a European tour by Mr Cyrus Vaei, the American Secretary of State, in which he sought support for economic strictures against Iran.

At the same time, Tehran radio repeated broadcast statements by the Ayatollah Khomeini saying that all nations "approached" "turned down" Mr Vance.

Ayatollah Khomeini also accused President Carter of being more concerned about his re-election than about the release of the hostages held at the United States Embassy in Tehran since November 4.

It is not because humanity that he demands the release of these 50 people, only want to be released the Ayatollah told his traders. His comments were later broadcast.

Iran's Commerce Minister has been working for a week on plans to cope with a trade embargo.—AP.

Poor response: Mr Va returns from Europe evening, but it is not clear that he got from real support from European governments. (Our Washington Correspondent writes) idea of asking the Security Council to decree sanctions against Iran met an unenthused response and there signs that the attitude of United States towards allies is beginning to harden.

The suggestion that Mr Va might be used against Iran less often heard than it is three weeks ago. Mr Va says that there are relatively hopeful signs coming from Tehran notably promises of foreign observers could visit hostages and that none of hostages would be executed.

The Americans expect leadership paralysis in Teh to continue. Further economic pressure might weaken Iranian Government more, this might not help the hosts much.

In a curious development, Iranian appear to have appointed an American citizen as their Permanent Representative to the United Nations. Is Professor Mansur Farhi an Iranian who has taught at Sacramento campus California State University, was naturalized by the United States in 1969.

Court ruling: The International Court of Justice in The Ha is to give an interim ruling on the case against Iran tormented by Amsterdam Correspondent writes.

The court, presided by Humphrey Waldock of Britain held its first public hearing the case last Monday.

Tehran alleges border raid by Iraqi force

Tehran, Dec. 14.—An Iraqi

force armed with heavy weapons

today drove three miles into

south-west Iran but retreated

after several hours, the Foreign

Ministry announced.

"The border now is completely calm", the ministry said in a brief statement broadcast on radio. The statement did not say when or where the attack

took place or the strength of the Iraqi force.

But it said the Iraqi forces had crossed three miles into Iran in what other government sources identified as the Shalmancheh area in Khuzestan province, an oil-producing region.

Earlier Tehran radio claimed that Iraqi forces had attacked with heavy artillery and accused the United States of being involved.—UPI.

The article rejected arguments about the defensive nature of the measures by stating that they were all part of an aggressive long-range American military programme that was adopted in 1975. The decision to modernize medium-range nuclear missiles was taken in 1975, before there were any Soviet SS20 missiles. The Nato constant therefore was "out-and-out hypocrisy."

Mr Losev said the programme was based on an offensive strategy, directed against the Soviet Union and the Middle East, Asia and Latin America.

Referring to the Nato hope of pursuing talks with the Soviet Union, Mr Losev said: "In an attempt to deceive public opinion, Nato officials are trying to create the impression that now they are coming out almost as initiators of negotiation."

In one they were spotted by security men and fled empty-handed. In the second raid, police said about eight bandits dressed in work overalls burst into Fiat's Rivalta press shop and made off with wages.

Fin factories and employees have for several years been a target for urban guerrillas, Reuter.

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OVERSEAS

Iran likely to dominate Mrs Thatcher's talks with President Carter

From David Cross

Washington, Dec 14

Mrs Thatcher is expected to pledge Britain's strong support for United States efforts to secure the release of 53 hostages held in the American Embassy in Tehran, when she meets President Carter here next week.

Mrs Thatcher arrives in Washington on Sunday night for her first official visit to the United States since she took office earlier this year. On Monday she will meet President Carter and leading Administration officials, including Mr Cyrus Vance, the Secretary of State, and Mr Harold Brown, the Defence Secretary.

She will travel to New York on Tuesday for talks with United Nations officials, including Dr Kurt Waldheim, the Secretary-General, and deliver a speech to the Foreign Policy Association.

The Prime Minister, who will be accompanied by Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, will also visit an Exxon research and development plant in Linden, New Jersey, before returning on Tuesday night.

The American Administration's preoccupation with the Iranian crisis is likely to set the tone for the talks between Mr Carter and Mrs Thatcher at the White House. British officials here emphasize that the United Kingdom is ready to do everything possible to help.

They point out that Mrs Thatcher was one of the first Western leaders to condemn the

seizure of the embassy in

Tehran and that the British have taken practical steps to demonstrate their support for American policy. They cite the British ban on the supply of military equipment and spare parts to Iran, as well as the decision by British Petroleum and Shell not to conclude new agreements for the purchase of oil from Iran beyond the end of this year.

The two leaders are also expected to discuss developments in Southern Rhodesia, particularly the question of American economic sanctions. The British hope that the President will lift sanctions quickly, not least because, since London assumed full responsibility for Southern Rhodesia with the arrival of Lord Soames as Governor, the embargo is now directed against Britain.

Another topic almost certain to be raised is the recent American ban on the export of small arms to the Royal Ulster Constabulary. It is understood that the Administration has undertaken a review of the ban, but a change of policy seems unlikely at a time when President Carter needs the backing of such Irish-American groups as Mr Tip O'Neill, the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Other subjects likely to be broached include this week's decision by Nato in Brussels to go ahead with the production and deployment of new nuclear missiles in West Europe, the deteriorating world economy, and energy problems.

'Cocktail party set' trades slurs with 'collaborators'

Two movements vie for support of South Africa's black millions

From Our Own Correspondent

Johannesburg

An increasingly intensive and at times acrimonious contest is taking place between two of South Africa's biggest black political movements to win the hearts and minds—and eventually the votes—of the country's 20 million black inhabitants.

The two movements are the Zulu-dominated Inkatha organization, headed by Chief Gatsha Buthelezi, the Chief Minister of the KwaZulu "homeland", and what is loosely termed the "Black Consciousness Movement" (BCM), a collection of groups headed by the Soweto Committee of 10 and the Azania People's Organization which support Black Consciousness ideals.

Though they are both striving for black liberation, their strategies for achieving this are so radically different there are fears of violence developing between their respective supporters.

In numerical strength Chief Buthelezi easily has the upper hand. Inkatha now has a paid up membership of about 300,000, making it by far the largest political organization in South Africa. Though it draws most of its support from the country's five million Zulus, Inkatha has opened its doors to non-Zulus. It is also allied to the main Coloured and Indian political parties.

Inkatha is not only big, it is well-organized. When Chief Buthelezi addresses a rally in

Soweto, as he did last month, his party workers pack the stadium with 20,000 supporters. No other black leader in the country could muster a crowd a tenth that size.

The Inkatha organization also has a much-publicized if ambiguous relationship with the banned African National Congress (ANC), the most important anti-apartheid liberation movement. Though they are politically far apart—Inkatha is conservative and favours non-violence, while the ANC is left-wing and committed to armed struggle—both Chief Buthelezi and Mr Oliver Tambo, the ANC's London-based leader, realize the importance of remaining on good terms.

Chief Buthelezi hopes his links with the ANC will earn him the support of militants who would otherwise scorn Inkatha's passive approach and who criticize its acceptance of working within the framework of the Pretoria Government's "Bantustan" policy.

The ANC recognizes the grass-roots support which Chief Buthelezi enjoys among his people and which could one day be mobilized in favour of the ANC.

Last month Chief Buthelezi and an Inkatha delegation held three days of talks with ANC leadership in London, an event from which Chief Buthelezi has subsequently been trying to extract maximum political mileage.

The ANC has described the meetings simply as a dialogue.

Chief Buthelezi's links with the ANC have caused dismay within the Black Consciousness Movement because they are seen as giving the Zulu leader a political legitimacy he does not deserve.

Dr Ntshozo Mofane, chairman of the Committee of 10 and a leading exponent of Black Consciousness ideals, recently poured scorn on the relationship, saying that the ANC did "not collaborate with traitors".

The slur of treachery was too much for Chief Buthelezi. He responded by calling Dr Mofane an elitist, an opportunist who did not have the political stamina to join the ANC and a "member of the cocktail-party set dropping in and out of foreign embassies".

BCM opposition to Chief Buthelezi is based on his willingness to operate from a Government-created platform as a "homeland" leader and even to negotiate with South Africa's white leadership.

Chief Buthelezi despises the BCM as a group of urban intellectuals who have little support among the workers and peasants and who lack the political courage to adopt the more extreme approach advocated by the ANC.

There is some basis to Chief Buthelezi's criticisms. The BCM lacks a large, well-established political base. It is rare that more than 1,000 people will turn out to hear Dr Mofane speak in Soweto.

Key job for hardliners in Seoul Cabinet

Seoul, Dec 14—President

Choi Kyu Hae of South Korea today with top military figures in senior positions, clearly indicating that the hardline generals have become the power brokers in South Korea.

The hardliners, who arrested nearly a dozen moderate generals on Wednesday night, had reportedly wanted their people to the important Justice, Defence and Education ministries and that is what they received.

General Choo Young Bok, until recently Air Force Chief of Staff, was named Minister of Defence. He replaces Mr Ro In Hyeon, who had been expected to stay on before the military shake-up, but was dropped because he was too closely associated with General Chung Seung Hwa, the former Martial Law Administrator and leader of the moderate faction, sources said.

General Kim Chong Kwan, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, takes over the Home Ministry, which controls all national policy and provincial government.

Mr Park Sang Gi, a former government prosecutor who is in the Central Election Committee and was assistant President Park Cheung Hee, was appointed Minister of Justice.

Mr Suh Ki Won, the presidential spokesman, announced the 18-member Cabinet headed by Mr Shin Kyun Hwak, who received his formal appointment as Prime Minister earlier in the day from President Choi. Two posts of minister—without portfolio, usually held by leading figures from the President's Park's ruling Democratic Republican Party, were left vacant.

Since Wednesday night's military power struggle, President Choi has made public appearances and his spokesman said he did not plan to issue any statements. Mr Choi apparently has no advance knowledge of the shakeup and seems to have been a back seat to the hardliners.

Four members of Mr Park's old Cabinet, which submitted resignations after the Mr Choi was elected, December 6, are included in the new Cabinet. Among them is Mr Park Tong Jin, the foreign minister, reflecting the Government's desire to maintain continuity in foreign policy.

The economic ministries all went to technocrats. Mr Kim Yon Ki kept his portfolio of finance. The post of Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Economic Planning has gone to Mr Lee Han Bin, an economist trained in the United States at Harvard.

The new Cabinet includes the former President Syngman Rhee's Government in 1960. It is Dr Kim Ok Gill, the President of Ewha Women's University until earlier this year, who becomes Minister of Education. She is considered independent but her father has been associated with dissident causes.—AP.

Canton to get precedence in world trading

Hong Kong, Dec 14

Canton will acquire special status on January 1 authorizing local party and trade officials to operate without necessarily seeking approval from the Government.

This will give Canton precedence over Peking and Shanghai in international trading, according to Mr David Buxbaum, an American specialist on Chinese affairs, who has just returned from a visit to China.

The authority for Canton reflects Peking's recognition of an influence of Hong Kong in contact with the West.



An FBI agent standing beside the recovered Tintoretto painting currently worth about \$1m

E Germans claim 'lost' Tintoretto

Continued from page 1

kur returned to prison until he was able to raise it. The case is likely to go before a grand jury within the next two weeks.

The Tintoretto is among 300 works from Dresden listed in the comprehensive catalogue of works stolen or destroyed in Germany between 1939 and 1945, published in Munich in 1965. Another work by the sixteenth century Italian painter, "Madonna and Child

and Glory", is also listed, but it is thought that it may have been destroyed.

In tracing the painting, the Federal Bureau of Investigation consulted Mrs Bonnie Burnham, executive director of the International Foundation for Art Research, which publishes a periodical called *Stolen Art Alert*.

Mrs Burnham said today: "We have received numerous inquiries in the last year about paintings stolen in the Second World War and specifically about this painting, from people who have been approached. Many seem to think that these paintings can now be bought openly. They want to know what the law is and whether it is in fact possible. It depicts the Madonna and Child

arranged to see the painting yesterday in Mr Vinkur's room at the Westbury Hotel, on Madison Avenue, the heart of the art dealing district of Manhattan.

As soon as Mr Vinkur showed the painting, he was arrested by six other agents who were waiting outside. He has been charged with interstate transport of stolen property, a federal offence which carries a penalty of up to 10 years in prison and a \$10,000 fine.

Soon after the masterpiece was recovered it was shown to reporters at an FBI press conference. Standing unframed on an easel, it was protected by a plastic sheet and appeared to be in fair condition. It depicts the Madonna and Child, St

Catherine and the head and torso of an unidentified bearded man.

Mr Eugene Kaplan, the prosecutor in charge of the investigation, said that lawyers for the East German Government had asked that the painting should be returned to their custody. He said that it was likely that this would eventually happen, as there seems little doubt that the Dresden Museum is the rightful owner.

However, in a broadly similar case, the courts have yet to decide on the fate of two portraits by Albrecht Dürer that were spirited away from a castle near Weimar during the Second World War, and were many years later bought by a Brooklyn collector for \$450.

Lesotho minister reported to have fled

Johannesburg, Dec 14—Mr

C. D. Molapo, the Foreign Minister of Lesotho, is believed to have fled his country in recent days after spending two weeks under house arrest, according to reports reaching Johannesburg.

The reports, from usually reliable sources, said the situation in Lesotho had seriously deteriorated. The source spoke of a conflict with Mr Leabua Jonathan, the Prime Minister, indicating there might be a power struggle in the capital.

Civilians killed to disrupt Pol Pot aid, Thai claims

Bangkok, Dec 14—Viet-

names-led forces have killed more than 20,000 civilians in the north-eastern Cambodian over the past 90 days, General Prem Tinsulanonda, the Thai Defence Minister said today.

He claimed the civilians were attacked in order to disrupt food supplies to Pol Pot guerrillas and to destroy popular support for the insurgents.

Most of the civilian casualties were inflicted in September, when the Vietnamese began launching their operations for territory expected to be under their control. Few casualties were inflicted on the 20,000 to 25,000 troops the Pol Pot regime still has under arms. The guerrillas, he said, were proving "highly resilient".

The general, speaking to foreign correspondents, cited unconfirmed reports that the Vietnamese were moving Soviet MIG jet fighters into forward positions at airfields in Siem Reap and Banteay Meanchey in western Cambodia. He said the Thai Government expected a big influx of refugees.

Red Cross threat to reconsider Kampuchea aid

From Our Correspondent

Geneva, Dec 14

The International Committee of the Red Cross said today that if distribution of aid within Kampuchea does not improve rapidly it will be forced to reconsider its policy.

The United Nations Children's Fund will be forced to "reconsider" their joint relief operation.

Mr Jean-Pierre Hocke, the committee's director of operations, back from a six-day visit to Phnom Penh, said that so far only a few thousand tonnes of food have been distributed out of the 35,000 tonnes sent in by air and sea since early October.

The rest is lying at the port of Kompong Son and at Phnom Penh, the capital.

The same delays apply to consignments of medicine. Mr Hocke said he understood from Heng Samrin Government officials that 200 to 250 Soviet lorries from a large delivery last weekend to Kompong Son would soon supplement the 150 or so supplied by international agencies.

Argentine leader condemns Peronist party

From Our Correspondent

Buenos Aires, Dec 14

In a press conference last night, President J. Videla of Argentina said the Peronist party as it existed had no place in the country's future democratic regime.

The party, founded by the former President General Juan Domingo Peron, combines a cult of its leader and the urban working classes with nationalist attitudes and advocacy of state directed economics. Since its foundation it has been the most powerful single political force in Argentina, and hitherto the country's military rulers have been careful not to offend the party as an enemy or the memory of its leader.

President Videla stated that if the party maintained its addition to a personality cult and to democracy it was not organized to act responsibly in a democracy.

A blueprint for Argentina's return to democracy is expected to be published next week.

Army that guards an emperor's tomb

The newly discovered tomb

of the first Emperor of China is guarded by an astonishing army of several thousand life-sized soldiers fashioned out of terra cotta. For sheer size and number of artistic masterpieces no site this century has yielded such an array.

Tomorrow *The Sunday Times* colour magazine publishes, for the first time in Britain, colour photographs of the army of statues which has been buried for more than 2,000 years.

Court of Appeal

Jury for Blair Peach inquest

In re Peach, deceased; Peach v

Burton

Before Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, and Lord Bridge and Sir David Cairns.

Where at an inquest the circumstances are such that facilities like that in respect of which the deceased died are likely to recur in the future and it is reasonable to expect that some action may be taken by some authority body to prevent such a recurrence, the coroner is bound to summon a jury.

The Court of Appeal allowed an appeal by Mr Blair Peach, a solicitor in New Zealand and brother of Mr Blair Peach, deceased, against the decision by the District Coroner (the Lord Justice Griffiths) (The Times, November 16) of the coroner to summon a jury.

The coroner was asked to quash Mr Burton's decision and an order of mandamus to compel the inquest to proceed.

Section 13(2)(a) of the Coroners Act, 1925, requires the coroner to summon a jury if he is satisfied that the circumstances are such that facilities like that in respect of which the deceased died are likely to recur in the future and it is reasonable to expect that some action may be taken by some authority body to prevent such a recurrence.

Section 13(2)(b) of the Coroners Act, 1925, requires the coroner to summon a jury if he is satisfied that the circumstances are such that facilities like that in respect of which the deceased died are likely to recur in the future and it is reasonable to expect that some action may be taken by some authority body to prevent such a recurrence.

Section 13(2)(c) of the Coroners Act, 1925, requires the coroner to summon a jury if he is satisfied that the circumstances are such that facilities like that in respect of which the deceased died are likely to recur in the future and it is reasonable to expect that some action may be taken by some authority body to prevent such a recurrence.

Section 13(2)(d) of the Coroners Act, 1925, requires the coroner to summon a jury if he is satisfied that the circumstances are such that facilities like that in respect of which the deceased died are likely to recur in the future and it is reasonable to expect that some action may be taken by some authority body to prevent such a recurrence.

Section 13(2)(e) of the Coroners Act, 1925, requires the coroner to summon a jury if he is satisfied that the circumstances are such that facilities like that in respect of which the deceased died are likely to recur in the future and it is reasonable to expect that some action may be taken by some authority body to prevent such a recurrence.

Law Report December 14 1979

Queen's Bench Division

Trade unions cannot sue for libel in their own name

Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunication and Plumbing Union v Times Newspapers Ltd and Others

Before Mr Justice O'Connor

Mr Justice O'Connor dismissed an action for libel brought by the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunication and Plumbing Union against Times Newspapers Ltd on the ground that the union had no right to sue in its own name.

The union claimed that it had been libelled in two articles in the Times of November 18, 1977. The articles, written by Mr William Mogg, editor, and Mr Paul Routledge, the paper's labour editor.

Giving judgment on preliminary issues of law, his Lordship held: (1) that a trade union (not being a special register body) could not maintain an action in its own name for damages for defamation in relation to its reputation as a legal entity whether or not such entity was separate and distinct from its individual members; and (2) that such a union was not able to maintain an action for damages for defamation in relation to its reputation as a legal entity whether or not such entity was separate and distinct from its individual members.

Section 2 of the Trade Union and Labour Relations Act, 1974, provides: "(1) A trade union which is not a special register body shall be deemed to be a body corporate, but—(a) it shall be capable of suing or being sued in its own name; (b) it shall be capable of suing and being sued in its own name, whether in proceedings relating to property or founded on contract or tort or any other cause of action whatsoever; (c) proceedings for any offence committed by or on behalf of any member of the union shall be brought against it in its own name; and (d) any judgment, order or decree in proceedings of any description brought against the trade union on or after the commencement of this section shall be enforceable, by way of execution, diligence, punishment for contempt or otherwise, against any property or interest of the union in the like manner as if the union were a body corporate."

Mr Michael Kempster, QC, and Miss Adrienne Page for the union; Mr Anthony Lester, QC, Mr Charles Gray and Mr Charles Hollander for the defendants.

MR JUSTICE O'CONNOR said that it was important to have clearly in mind that the issues were concerned with the law touching the status of the union and not on industrial disputes. When Lord Justice Denning dissented in *Bonsor v Musicians' Union* (1956) 1 All ER 299, 510, he said: "A libel is, of course, in its very nature, a wrong to the person, not a wrong to property; and it is apparent that it is only by attributing legal personality to a trade union that it can be permitted to sue or be sued in its own name."

His Lordship said that the principle that an action for defamation was a personal action because it was the reputation of a person which was defamed, and unless one could attach a personality to a trade union, it was not possible to sue or be sued for defamation. The best example was that a voluntary unincorporated association could not

maintain an action for libel on itself. The law was clear: there was no difficulty in relation to an individual, not to a corporate body. Corporate bodies—bodies set up by charter, special Acts of Parliament, or letters patent—had a personality which could be defamed and they could bring an action in their own name for libels on themselves.

How, then, could an unincorporated body ever sue for libel in its own name? The answer, on the cases was beyond dispute, was that the necessary personality must be found in some statute or grant which conferred the right of an unincorporated body that had a sufficient personality which was entitled to protect by bringing an action in libel.

As to the libel, it was the law that a statement which was defamatory of a group at large could not be sued upon by the individual members of the group. The individual members could show that the defamatory statement referred to them.

Where did a trade union stand? Since the Trade Union Act, 1871, trade unions had been recognized, but they were unincorporated associations and as such they could not sue or be sued in their own names, and as such they could not maintain an action for defamation in relation to their reputation as a legal entity.

In the *Taff Vale* case (1901) 21 All ER 513, the House of Lords held that a trade union was a body corporate for the purposes of the law relating to trade unions, but not for the purposes of the law relating to trade unions.

The immediate effect of the *Taff Vale* decision was a call for a change in the law. The House of Lords, in the *Taff Vale* case, decided that a trade union should be treated as a body corporate for the purposes of the law relating to trade unions.

Trade unions had brought actions for libel as early as 1871. Following the *Taff Vale* decision it was apparent that an unincorporated association could not sue or be sued in its own name, and that was the basis on which unions could sue for libel.

In *RUGM v. Gibson* (1945) 2 All ER 513, the Court of Appeal decided that a union could sue in its registered name for damages for defamation touching its reputation. The House of Lords, in attributing to the union, because of its position under the trade union law, the status of a body corporate, so by the mid-1950s it was clear and at the time of the decision in *Bonsor v Musicians' Union*, the question whether a union had some legal personality quite clearly was legal. The problem had arisen because of the change in the law which had occurred since that time.

The Royal Commission on Trade Unions and Employers' Associations (1965-66) (Chairman, Lord Donovan) found certain anomalies in the position of trade unions and recommended clarification by passing legislation, inter alia, to the effect that trade unions should be bodies corporate. The Royal Commission's recommendation was adopted by the House of Commons in 1974.

The difficulty was that section 1(1) of the Trade Union and Labour Relations Act, 1974, was unequivocal terms: "The Industrial Relations Act, 1971, is hereby repealed. Section 2 of the said Act shall have effect as if it were a body corporate."

In his Lordship's judgment the words in section 2(1) were absolute. He said that it had to be remembered that the whole background of the position of trade unions until 1971 was that

they were quasi-corporate bodies. It was a matter which was as much in their interest as any possible disability. In the 1974 Act Parliament said that a trade union was not, and was not to be treated as if it were, a body corporate. In construing words which he found were absolutely clear, his Lordship had to give effect to them, even if the result seemed to be absurd. The result to which he was driven in the present case was not necessarily an absurdity, but it did remove from the status of a trade union a right which had been granted to it from 1901 until 1971.

If the words "or be treated as if it were" were not in section 2(1), there would be no ambiguity in them. Mr Kempster had submitted that the words were not there, and his Lordship would willingly have adopted that construction if it had been possible to do so, because the matters contained in paragraphs (a) to (e) would give a trade union the attributes of a body corporate, and there would be no difficulty. His Lordship would not construe the Act as removing from trade unions the right to sue in libel while preserving for employers' associations (which under section 2(1) would be either a body corporate or an unincorporated association) if he were not absolutely driven to the conclusion that the law any body would say that a trade union had a separate reputation and should be entitled to sue or be sued in its own name. His Lordship had to construe those unambiguous words. The clear words of the statute meant that a trade union was not to be treated as if it were a body corporate, so that it did not possess the right which would be lost if it could protect by an action for defamation.

The other question argued before his Lordship was whether a union was able to maintain an action for damages on behalf of each and every one of its individual members in the name of the union (without identifying any particular member or members) in relation to a publication which impugned their several reputations as members of the union. The answer was no.

The simple reason was that a representative action was not available to a number of different individuals where the relief sought was damages. In a libel action one would be looking at the injury to the reputation of the individual members of the union and they would all be different, and insofar as any of them could and the cause of action would be different.

On the first question there had been an alternative argument advanced on behalf of the defendants that quite apart from construction of the opening words of section 2(1), on the true construction of section 2(1)(c) a trade union could not sue in libel because the words "subject to section 14" governed what the union could sue for as well as what it could be sued for. It was submitted that *insofar as* section 14 gave the trade union immunity in respect of its actions as members in tort, but it was not necessary to give paragraph (c) that construction. It must be construed by looking at section 2 and that gave immunity to the union and did not bar the union from suing in tort.

His Lordship would have answered "yes" to the first question. Judgment should be given on the two preliminary issues argued to the defendants in the main action. I leave to appeal to the House of Lords to the House of Lords. Solicitors: Lawford & Co; Mr A. J. Brett.

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Jury for Blair Peach inquest

In re Peach, deceased; Peach v

Burton

Before Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, and Lord Bridge and Sir David Cairns.

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Section 13(2)(g) of the Coroners Act, 1925, requires the coroner to summon a jury if he is satisfied that the circumstances are such that facilities like that in respect of which the deceased died are likely to recur in the future and it is reasonable to expect that some action may be taken by some authority body to prevent such a recurrence.

Section 13(2)(h) of the Coroners Act, 1925, requires the coroner to summon a jury if he is satisfied that the circumstances are such that facilities like that in respect of which the deceased died are likely to recur in the future and it is reasonable to expect that some action may be taken by some authority body to prevent such a recurrence.

order Mr Blair Peach was struck on the head by the brick, where he died next morning.

Saturday Review



Public days, private ways

by Michael Holroyd

For many years I used to believe that public holidays had been invented for children and would disappear once I grew up. It was one of the ways—a moustache was another—I would be able to tell. But holidays have not vanished: they have grown mercifully long, and I now look on them as occasions when, pending our second childhood, we try to plunge back to early child days. Blood is thicker than water but families are thicker than thieves, so our attitude depends on the sort of childhood we enjoyed or endured. A time for suicide or for celebration: the world is divided into those who take their holidays with or from their relatives.

Like many who moved clear of the eccentricities of conventional family life, I still nurse a fantasy of the ideal Christmas or Easter. It is a pretty travesty. The bells ring out, snow arranges itself brilliantly across the fields and trees; while within all is singing and smiling, laughter and presents. And I am dancing rather amazingly. I can see the same living room as Maurice Sachs saw when he closed his eyes, the living room "of a big country house where the fireplace holds three trees, trunks. My father comes in all muddy from foxhunting, my mother gets up from the piano where she has been singing a simple ballad. My (virgin) sister, leaves off her embroidery. . . . and so on. Probably I was fortunate in that the only connexion my family had with this grand mythical scene was one of caricature.

If the holiday spirit depends upon family loyalty then this would explain (to my own family's satisfaction) my poor showing. Everyone tried, when I was a child, to put on a good performance for "the boy". But even to my eyes it had the air of a first rehearsal for the real holiday-to-come which never came: the mince pies or Easter eggs irretrievably mislaid in the garage; the crashing problem of washing-up after the sherry (we eventually used egg cups); the untouchable arrangement of cards undertaken (sometimes months afterwards) by my aunt. We were all determined amateurs.

Still, my grandparents did light a fire in the hall; we would sit the dog on a mat and draw it up to guard the flames.

That seemed authentic. Even when we could no longer afford a dog, my aunt usually managed to borrow one. But I doubt if our hearts were really in the business. Our natural talent was less for compulsory conviviality than complaint. We could bring to complaint—and never more ecstatically than on Holy Days—the rhythms of a paranoiac ritual so sophisticated that to outsiders it must have seemed as incomprehensible as Latin or Greek chants. Outsiders, in fact, seldom entered our house, being neither invited nor anxious for invitations. So our rejoicings were claustrophobically Holroyd, and none the less odd for that.

Good Friday, Whitsun, the August Bank Holiday—we saw them all as opportunities for disaster. We had the recipe for disaster as other people had it for brandy butter. In this matter we were wonderfully self-sufficient. We could, for example, rely on the weather as being unpredictable. There was a lot of weather around on holidays. Temperatures were usually critical—disastrously hot or cold depending on which room we gasped or huddled in; or else, if we risked moving, dramatically changeable. Influenza flourished, and was treated under the supervision of my grandfather who was "better than any doctor" and never scrupled to get up from his own sickbed to administer black molasses, herbs and honey. The family doctor (who was actually called Influenza) was never allowed in the house unless it was for a consultation on the dog which, because of its pampered diet, was often ill. We blamed Influenza.

Next to medicine, my grandfather's chief hobby when I knew him was weather. He knew the names of clouds and could predict things, such as their effect on General Elections, with vigorous Conservatism. In his role as unfrocked scientist, he liked to conduct expensive experiments. In the morning-room it was exclusively Dr. Bronowski's coke, in the hall Maurice Sachs's tree trunks; the kitchen was served in a blue sort of way by unnatural gas, the dining-room was red with electricity. There was also a huge Aga furnace and scattered on the landings various popping oil heaters. The house was freezing. Overhead, spied on by my grandfather, the clouds moved slowly past

and the only result of these experiments appeared to be our double-mortgage.

Weather saturated our meals. By springing up and twisting some knobs, my grandfather could conjure from the radio-gram—a massive and fiercely complex machine that dominated our dining-room—consecutive and sometimes conflicting weather reports. We ate to the accompaniment of droughts and blizzards while my grandfather, at the head of the table, smiled and nodded expertly. With the middle of lunch or dinner came the news: advancing armies, mounting scores, volcanic eruptions, bloody murders, strikes floated round the room as we sat quietly eating.

But never music. My family was intensely unmusical and never interfered with my own musical tastes—indeed, had not heard of them. Occasionally my grandmother would moan an Irish dirge—"Father, dear father, was a favourite of hers. My grandfather seemed untroubled by this, being partly deaf. My father was less susceptible still and could be propelled to attention after a few bars of Gilbert and Sullivan if someone (usually myself) hinted that it might be "God Save the King". Of course he had heard of music, my father, but he hadn't heard anything very good. It was dangerous stuff, he said, and he could well imagine it: brandy of the damned. A lot of the trouble in the world—the sort of thing we heard at lunch—could have been avoided by a little intelligent silence: that was his opinion, and who can say that it was wrong? He valued silence in others. So did we all.

But my aunt, a flapper of forty, had plenty of records: the garage was full of them. So far as I could judge, she kept them mainly for practising her dusting. Since the radio-gram was reserved for international crises, of which there seemed an infinite supply and for which we had such a mournful relish, there was seldom time for the frivolity of the phonograph. But on holidays there was an amnesty, and my aunt would wheel in her obsolete records at tea time. They were seventy-eights, of course, worn smooth with dusting, and very faint: "Miss Orla Reprints", "Bye Bye Blackbird" and foreign noises such as Charles Trenet singing "Le

Mer". To-day this music fills me with nostalgia, but at the time I felt impatient. I needed something martial and intellectual—massed bands blaring gently away among the strawberries, and various "lollipops" Tchaikovsky, Grieg. I pined for rousing stuff, loud and fast, and getting louder and faster, such as Ravel's *Boleto*. With a ruler in my hand, or a pencil, I could whip myself into a fine lather conducting "The Ride of the Valkyries": but I never heard it at home.

My mother knew a bit about music. It was something you kicked up your heels to, something that came with waiters and champagne. If there was music going on, she couldn't keep still. There was no telling where it would lead her. She was a fearful embarrassment to us all, going round enjoying everything. No wonder my father frowned so disapprovingly at music. No wonder I kept quiet.

Everyone felt greatly exercised during these holidays over the problem of "the boy". I had no suggestions of my own. One Easter I was taken to my first pantomime and waited angrily for the pander to appear, having understood it to be a *pando-mime*. It was characteristic of holidays to play such tricks. At Christmas, late at night, I secretly hummed up a stocking at the end of my bed, having heard at school that people did this. Nothing happened. Typical, I felt.

My father, who inherited my grandfather's optimism, was cheerfully determined that everything should go with a bang; and sometimes it did. His arrival was welcomed with much anguish by my grandparents, partly because he would take for granted all manner of exotic things: hot water for a bath; ashtrays for his pipe and so on. Worse still, he would arrive bristling with dangerous presents for "the boy". I was hardly out of my pram, it seemed, when he turned up with a golf club. He was too merciful to insist that I follow in his footsteps. He merely demanded that I perform extremely well those things he seldom if ever bothered to do himself. There was no hint in this respect of his generosity. After a few flourishes to show how it was done, he handed the golf club to my aunt with instructions for her to finish off my tuition,

Michael Holroyd, celebrating in paper hat with his mother, and as 'the boy' whom nobody seemed to know what to do with at holiday time . . .

and returned to the Second World War. My aunt did her best. But I remember thinking as we quarried out lumps of ice covered the fridge to put on her head while waiting for the ambulance, that she had probably been unwise to choose the dining-room for practice. Holidays often produced hangovers like this.

It was characteristic of my grandparents' indulgence towards me that the blame for these disasters was automatically fixed, to his consternation and bewilderment, on my father. I had, it was explained, been trying too hard to please him. As a child I was extremely timid, but with moments of vicarious boldness that were almost always regretted. When my father arrived one Easter with a rifle, this was at once confiscated by my aunt. But it set me thinking. I had discovered a walking-stick in the ballstand that turned out to be a concealed gun. Having loaded it with a cartridge from the attic, I approached my grandfather in her bathroom. She pulled the trigger in innocent self-defence—that is, in honour me—and sent us both careering into the garage below. Every one was very angry with my father.

During the school holidays there was one place I dreaded being sent: it was called ABROAD. At school I was much envied for the number of times I had been there and listened to in awe if I let drop a word or two of Paris or Stockholm. But I was always lost in these places. My parents had met abroad. In the 1930s, my father was heroically trying to

sell glass to Sweden (like coals to Newcastle) and accosted my Swedish mother on the boat. They got along fine on water, but eventually struck land and then split up. Both of them liked travelling, and in no time I had French and Hungarian step-parents—with an occasional step-brother or (virgin) step-sister added to the retinue. To ingratiate themselves, they would ask me various thick and complicated questions about cricket, and I soon became politely expert. But it was difficult at first getting their names right and I noticed how old everyone looked when I got them wrong. Each holiday I would be introduced to someone fresh and spirited off I knew not where. I should have enjoyed it far more than I did, but I had no grasp of geography and little sense of its prestige. I remember how surprised I was by the weakness of Vienna until discovering myself to be in Venice. That vain English disease of shyness concealed many things from me, and I appeared to go about in a protective dream not knowing if it was Christmas or Easter, Cologne or Acapulco.

My mother followed the sun and I trailed after her. As soon as the sun came up, she lay down, hour after hour, turning very slowly and darkening like regions on a spit. I hung about waiting—waiting for life to career into me. I had little gift for sunbathing—or for the other fears my mother performed so well: languages, dancing, and so on. I enjoyed them, and still do, with feverish longing, but as a spectator. My spirit danced and was eloquent

while I sat quietly by. All this sitting around convinced people that I was, if not precocious, terribly *mauve*. My emotional paralysis made me appear by the age of 16 to be everyone's uncle. I was far older than my mother and to her extreme delight we were sometimes taken for brother and sister. In many respects I was in loco parentis. If she wished to elope, fly off from one country to the next, she made me her travel agent. But she never acted, however ruinously, without first asking my advice. This advice, much revered for the sympathetic timbre of my voice, was powerfully inconclusive and enabled anyone who accepted it to do exactly what he wanted. It gave an air of second-hand authority to the most absurd decisions, partly because, never taking any actions myself, I had amassed an extraordinary reputation for wisdom. So I adventured vigorously, like some valet packing and unpacking other people's luggage, before returning from these strange holidays to the orthodoxy of school. In time, these adventures grew wilder: smuggling my mother out of a top-security German hospital; searching far lost earnings in Austria; that sort of thing.

She also gave me my first literary commission—the writing of her letters from Mexico to one of her husbands who kindly invited me to draft his replies. For six months I waged an elaborate long-distance correspondence with myself in which, I noticed, I began to put my *alter ego* as *extravagant* compliments—"your wonderful letter" etc.

"Friends," wrote Kingsmill, "are god's ap for relations." Perhaps greatest of all: the arts of is converting one's family friends. But if we, or the sist this transformation, as Kingsmill implies, we make a new family of friends. Patterns of former years are difficult change and, depending to extent, we like or dislike selves do we seek either to force those patterns by c ing similar friends or t reborn through love-of chapeau, lovers into I friends. Our attitude to hol is not a bad test of how su ful we have been. Those thirst to establish a leagu the abolition of Christmas who lay their eternal curi people who invent I days, have often substi work for people. Holidays them feel useless and are t for, as Bertrand Russell scribbled, a wonderful med for those who think their indispensable.

I protest against holidays I protest too much. I loath ously word "holidaymaker". I object to hanging ar "making" a holiday people I have never met tel to do so. I like to bank i holidays, like a romantic n so that when the real hol to be finally comes, my En puritanism. (For English sh has by now hardened into: will not hold me back. All be singing and smiling, lau and presents. And I shal dancing; rather amazingly last.

©Michael Holroyd.

Berlioz fully revealed

imagine a more season-
able choice of choral work, but
Ludwig's *Le Barbeaux* is
a variation of *Le derviche*
and is equally good. And
they appear. It is not
Plácido Domingo as
mastered too much by
music and sometimes led
the choir into the side
of the choir, while the
touching but not
appropriate strains of a
school concert. What this
one has, however, is an
extraordinary, philosophi-
cally, and a great deal of
grace (Yvonne Milton)
combines richness of voice
simplicity and directness
and an intelligent,
logical, professional perfor-
mance. One may sometimes
the flash and the fire, but
point's mature approach
very revealing, bringing
the underlying strange-
ness and menace.

And the oratorio,
Berg's *Gurrelieder*, is
well managed by Boston
under Seiji Ozawa. The

All the rest are symphonies. Last month I suggested that Beethoven's Schumann set had a no peer, but now here comes a symphony with a beautiful Rhenish from Berlin and this most brassy symphony is aptly coupled with the horn concerto for four horns and orchestra. The music is impressively with an ambitious and firm opening movement to the symphony, which will strong and full of life and vigour. In the finale. In between these two successful is not entirely unimpressive. The cathedral movement, for instance, obviously is a little empty. The second movement seems fine, and the centerpiece is surely too fast. Nevertheless, this is a view which makes sense of the five-movement symphony and the warm style is appealing.

I was just as struck at first by the pressure and sweet detail of the music as I was by the G major symphony of Dvorak, but on second and third hearings I found the unsavory taste of glamour overwhelming. Keenly felt by the Chicago Symphony, the Globe Theatre, and the Metropolitan Opera, it is over the top when he reaches the solo violin episode in the second movement.

Debussy does not allow himself any suggestions in this performance of Tchaikovsky's fourth symphony, packed though it evidently is with enthusiasm and soul. The music is so that it remains sound even behind the non-speakers: one is not gripped as one is by Böhm's very much more leisurely manner in the *Pavane*. Here the music is perfect, and the first movement is quite unusually slow, but the expres-

Less familiar ground is covered in a Soviet recording of the third symphony by Nikolay Miskovsky (1881-1950), who completed this work in 1914 and then produced another two or three symphonies after the Revolution. The piece is particularly original except in form: there are two big movements, of which the first is spurred on Scriabin-fashion by an exultant trumpet theme and the second renews the fight before collapsing into tragic poverty. I have not seen a score and the performance seems adequate, except where the Russian brass shiver like a momentous jelly.

One turns with relief to the brilliance and clean attack of the London Philharmonic in the new recording of the four symphonies of Prokofiev and Shostakovich, both from integral sets in progress. Prokofiev's *Symphony No. 5* here given in the 1947 recording which was effectively a new composition, is one of his less exceptional works, but the record is almost worth having for the extraordinarily fine Russian Overture. Shostakovich's *Symphony No. 5* is a mammoth. As Halituk makes very clear, its rhetoric is not that of the public celebration or the private self-indulgence: the music is, rather, one of the most overpoweringly negative statements in music.

Quite by contrast, Peter Maxwell Davies's *Symphony* (which before long we shall have to rename first *symphony*) uses negative and disruptive materials to create a work of commanding positive achievement. It has taken me some while to recognize the necessity of its sometimes disturbing detail, and I doubt that many people will like the work all at once. The excellent new recording, however, gives one the opportunity to stretch one's mind to encompass a rare masterpiece from this dwindling decade.

Paul Griffiths



Masseenet: Don Quichotte. Ghaivrouz / Bacquier / Suides
Romance / Kord. Decca D1962 (2 discs) ☐ **1962**
Fuccini: La bohème. Ricciardi / Carreras / Covent Garden
Orch. / Davis. Philips 679 031
(2 discs) ☐ **1969** 116, £10.45
Benzlitz and others: White
Swan. Philips 679 031 (2 discs)
Münch: Munich Radio Orch.
Mattes. HMV SL 5184 (2 discs)
(2 discs) ☐ **72** SL 5184, £9.95
Elisabeth Schwarzkopf: fav-
orite scenes and arias. EMI
Concert Classics KXDW 3049
Concert Classics 30.4 £5.99
Timber sings Lieht. HMV
Treasury. HLM 7172, 3.45 ☐
TC-BLM. 7172, £3.65.

Massener's operas have been treated handsomely this year. After CBS's enterprising *Cendrillon* and Plácido Domingo's fine assumption of the title role in *Werther* for DG comes *Don Quichotte* on Decca this month. And the last, demise the competition, is the

well cast as the Man of La Mancha's man. I have not been over-impressed by some of his recent work, but he has no weaknesses here as Sancho's allegiance to his master grows with the passing of the acts. The Yugoslav, Cangelovic and Kozlovski, have had a virtual monopoly of Massenet opera (they appear on the heavily cut Everest recording), taking it around Europe as the Moreau and Vignani did in the past stage. The Gleanrov-Bacquier combination is infinitely more rewarding, particularly when supported by Decca's Dulcinea. The Gleanrov-Bacquier is elegant and stylish form and, like Massenet himself, more than a little in love with Quixote. Kazimierz Kord conducts the Russian Kirov with the right mixture of sadness and ebullience—one of the most encouraging trends in recorded opera this year has been the introduction of some companies to take chances. The blues who are not the obvious choice at first sight.

best. Don Quichotte is Massenet's Falstaff, a mellow and sentimental work with wryness and humanity mixed in equal proportions. Massenet, like Verdi, was more than half in love with this subject, forgiving himself for his own admiration of the work. Massenet, was approaching 70 when he wrote the opera for the Monte Carlo and the score has an old man's tolerance, yet it is filled with glorious melody. Deca was very enough to the composer. Nicolo Chiarov for the opera, which he finished six years ago at the Paris Opéra. There he had to fight against an ill-starred production by Peter Usimov which was empty of every sympathy and humanity. On record, by contrast, he is a superb singer, but suffers from the rest of the cast and from a superbly specious and atmospheric recording made in Geneva. Chiarov obliges with Quixote saturated with rich melodrama—perhaps this is the role he was built for. European basses from Chailpin onwards—but at the same time embellishing every tune Massenet wrote for him, starting with the whole A serenade which haunts the whole opera.

Five years have passed since the last *Bohème* on record, possibly a tribute to the strength of the existing cast. The new version on Philips is directed by Claudio Abbado, to challenge Beecham (EMI), Karajan (Decca) and Solti (RCA) without actually topping any of them. Davis and the Covent Garden Orchestra are out to brush away the cobwebs from the score, and the sentimental score is, on that matter, as they were in the recent *Tosca* on fine same label. The result is a lively conversation, constantly responsive and attentive but a little short on romance.

The ladies are the stars of the set. Katia Ricciarelli, as we have heard at Covent Garden, is an enchanting Mimì, timid and flirtatious by turn and deeply affecting in the final act. Ashley Putnam, who would be much better known in this country, is a dissenting voice as Musetta. Jose Carreras's Rodolfo is variable, sometimes producing the boyish timbre ready-made for the part and on other occasions sounding grained and worldlyweary, which the latter would never be. Truly, *Wix!*

11. Jephtha. Soloists/
any and Chorus of St.
in-the-Fields/Marriner.
AW6: D18DA, £19.95 (4 discs).
18LK43.

12. Jephtha. Soloists/
Schönberg-Chor, Mozart-
knaben/Concertus. Musi-
cienna/Harmoncourt. Tele-
AW6: 35499, £21 (4
discs).

13. Alexander's Feast.
/King's College Choir/
edger. HMV SLS 5168.
(2 discs). ☐ TC-SLS.

The Art of Fugue.
Hart. Harmonious
99793-4, £9.98 (2 discs).

Organ Music, Vol. 4.

Hurford: Argo D177D3.
(3 discs.) K17/K332.
Sacred choral works,
ad-4. Soloists: John
Choir / ECO / Negri.
6769 032. \$104.45 (2)

the best and certainly
the poorest of Handel's
has never done well
works. There have been
"Deeper and deeper
and "Wait her, angels"
begs breathing into the
hus and out again, but
fully complete version I
heard until now was a
one by Alexander Young-
title role and Reri Grist
daughter, indifferently

Handel, by Roubillac
This is partly due to the
quality of the men's voices.
Zeph is done by Christopher
Kerter: clear, well accented
singing, but without quite the
weight one expects. Jephtha
himself is sung by Anthony
Rolfe-Johnson. There is much
darkness in the darker
loud-sounding tenor than his
(I remember moving stage per-
formances by Richard Lewis
and Ronald Dowd); that said,
I really could not wish for a
more beautifully sung perfor-
mance—lyrical, finely phrased
with a real sense of Handelian
style. The tenor's touch in the
elegant music in the later part
of the work.

from
Ledges
strong than
There
accusations
and exte
My
keyboar
monia
of Fu
Leonha
At fir
become
master
each s
brings
to som
There
issue w
a sear

There are two new versions to have just issued in England, and they are making available a lot of telefunken. The tapes authentic instruction in the English language, directing the English done by the Academy of the Fields under the direction of the Mariner. I do not know if this is the first time the conventional language the more enjoyable.

Mariner shows his usual. The orchestral playing is audaciously secure, and the rhythms are his phrasing is neat and Tempos tend to be on the slow side at least. The part of the oratorio; I myself wondering, about through, when there is to be some hint of attack, and then rather to dominate the work it is a lighter-toned nance than one might, ideal world, look for.

• **Idomeneo**, Mathis/
• **Selkier/Ochman**, Leip-
• **na Chorus**, Dresden State
• **18hm. DG 3740-195,**
• **(4 discs).**
• **La clemenza di Tito.**
• **/ Mathis / Berganza,**
• **r. Adam/Leipzig Radio**
• **Dresden State Orch.:**
• **3739 092, £15.17 (3**
• **discs)**
• **Il re pastore**, Mathis/
• **Chavarin / Krenn /**
• **T. Salzburg / Meierm-**
• **tager. DG 2740-182,**
• **(3 discs).**

Dresden and the orchestra, formerly called the Sächsisches Staatkapelle, with which he made some famous pre-war 78s (do you remember the Bruckner overture and the Strauss waltz "The old maid is after 40 years, still working again").

The *Idomeneo* came first, using Peter Schreier as a tenor (damante, therefore adopting the musical text, as revised by Mozart (with two new pieces)

ncount has also
 Alexander's Feast
 ear, but although his per-
 again has original in-
 eism (Felicity Palmer
 Roke Johnson,
 y Roberts), I would
 recommend the new
 version of this inspiri-
 under Philip Ledger,
 the new reading
 the fussiness and
 dicate nuance that dis-
 line of Harounnour's
 is some charming
 singing from Helen
 glorious declamation
 of Roke. A fine ex-
 t of the noble basaria
 e, Timotheos cries"

Thomas Allen; and Mr's all-male choir have a clear claim to authenticity as Karajan's mixed one. It is, like, lively, unaffected, and, like, so brilliant, spacious sound. Each batch is wholly of music. From Har-Mundi comes: *The Art* played by Gustav rit on the harpsichord. This may seem excessive; but such one is aware of the Ly control of the span of movement, and later he energy, vividness, even, e of the quicker music-are some points to take in, but what emerges is shining performance, and

and intellectual Peter
has now reached the
volume of the complete
works, made on organs
027, 1982, 102, 105,
imaginative, discriminating
in the smaller
and the contemplative
of his playing; but
the media in which he
ends this set.
00, his architectural con-
and his command of a
brilliant, public manner.
of Abbene, new rays
the latest issue in Phil-
complete choral works of
This box is, as it were,
the limited edition of
the most popular choral
the Gloria (with a less
prefatory piece), and
large mass setting, and
the vocal part for in-
cluded solo singing, in-
clude a contribution from
the Girls Choir, tidy play-
ing ECO under the baton
discreet and capable

Bethoven: Symphonies Nos
1-7. Berlin PO/Karajan. DG 2542
109, £350 102, 105, £350
Debussy: La Mer, Prélude à
l'après-midi d'un faune/Ravel:
Bolero. Berlin PO/Karajan. DG
2542 116, £350 3342 116
Mahler: Symphony No. 5, Fin-
landia. Valse triste. Berlin PO/
Karajan. DG 2542 109, £350
3342 109.
Braxms: Symphony No. 2. Berlin
PO/Karajan. DG 2542 101, £350
3342 101.

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the 1960s, vintage years in the
growth of the catalogue.
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direct competition to Decca's
Jubilee and Philips's Festivo
labels, though the presentation is
less attractive (the label de-
sign is particularly handsome).
The first batch restores to cir-
culation a number of Karajan per-

Stanley Sadie

for a later concert performance by aristocratic amateurs in Vienna. His sterling voice and interpretative art are handsomely contrasted with the darker, more mature-sounding Idomeneus of Wieslaw Ochman. The young, handsome Edith Matris is the enchanting, touching Iulia. Varady the richly venous Elektra, less successful at the gentler aspects of the role. The orchestral playing is a constant joy, allowed to demote the singers to audible second place. There are, as usual with Böhm, too many cuts for the good of a recorded performance (a different understanding of the word "production" in the theatre, where other considerations apply), and the Italian pronunciation is not faultless. Böhm's reading of listed moods recently equalled of the same sort was many of the same quality. The orchestra and the Varady offers another reliable villainess, reliable and amiable's pride and amate scorn for her love (Grecia Bergena, not Greek). The music is good and moving and solves to abandon the sake of those 2 in her last aria, "I fiori" most sympathetic and virtuous. The music and virtue Titus. Varady as: Servilia, promises

career of a lovely, touching soprano roles.

Some of Böhm's tempi now seem too restrained for the good of the drama, though the first act finale projects an atmosphere of poignant suspense and multifarious emotional conflict. The recorded balance here is more satisfying, and the programme for Meistersinger magnificent woodwind writing.

In the last analysis, I prefer the Philips set conducted with more complete theatricality by Colin Davis (Baker, Minton and Stuart Burrows all veristic and thrilling, but Böhm's reading is a nuisance to make the music about Mozart's music here and there a musical number is rendered with greater distastefulness, thanks to Böhm's expertise; yet we are never far away from the world of the concert cantata.

The contrast becomes much more extreme when those adult vocalists, who were the stars of a skilled dramatic piece from his youth, *Il re pastore*, com-

Beethoven: The middle-period string quartets. Alban Berg Quartet. HMV SLS 5171, £13.45 (3 discs).

Beethoven: The ten sonatas for violin and piano. David Oistrakh/LHF Oberlin, Philips 6768 036, £13.95 (4 discs).

Beethoven/Schubert: Music for violin and piano. Sviatoslav Richter/LSO/Emil Tchakarov. DG 2531 193, £5.06. ☐ 3301 193, £5.27.

Beethoven: Piano sonatas Nos. 6-15. Bernard Roberts. Nimbus D/C 902, £19.40 (4 discs).

Schubert: Piano sonata in D major, D.157, and a minor, D.845. Radu Lupu. Decra SXL 6931, £5.25.

Chopin: Four scherzi. Martin Deyanova. Nimbus 2124, £4.85.

Debussy: String Quartet. In Memoriam Quartet. DG 2531 203, £5.06. ☐ 3301 203, £5.27.

F major. Melos Quartet. DG 2531 203, £5.06. ☐ 3301 203, £5.27.

A younger Soviet violinist, Gidon Kremer, deserves gratitude for an assemblage of "concert pieces" for violin and orchestra by Beethoven and Schubert, including a little-known unfinished *Allegro con brio* in C (WoO5) thought to have been intended by Beethoven, in his early twenties, as the first movement of a symphony, completed later by Wilfried Fischer, with the substantial LSO under Emmanuelle Haïk. Kremer and Tchaikovsky fill out the program, but Kremer's playing could even lay claim to symphonic status.

Such a Beethoven bonanza had me wondering if the record companies were out to celebrate the immortal man's hundredth birthday anniversary of his birth. The truth no doubt lies in the unchanging prowess as a best-seller, so that even a comparison of the new recordings can risk its own complete cycle of piano sonatas from the English pianist Bernard Roberts. The four-record album was recorded direct on disc—no magnetic tape, no retakes—resulting in a refreshingly warm and intimate sound, free of the stalling, and performances of remarkable accuracy and control even if slightly conditioned to the need to play for safety. One of the country's finest chamber music players, Mr. Roberts offers as sane and sincere an account of these sonatas as you could wish to hear.

Radu Lupu's latest Schubert release couples the rarely-heard, engaging early E major Sonata (complete but for a finale) and the last of the three A minor sonatas written only three years before his death. Youth and experience are keenly contrasted, though, like Pollini, Lupu keeps disturbed undercurrents in the later work under firm classical control.

Marta Deyanova's account of Chopin's four scherzos sounds considerably better at its rightful speed of 45 rpm than at 33 as I inadvertently first played it. She is a pianist of considerable agility and temperament who nevertheless lacks finesse in heated climaxes. Nor does she maintain a simple and continuous enough line.

Finally, to the twentieth century and a coupling of Debussy's and Ravel's only string quartets. These are fastidiously and seductively enough timed, shaped and shaded, besides faithfully recorded, making the disc something of a collector's piece.

Joan Chissell

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PERSONAL CHOICE



ara Thompson in *Jazz*, Janet Street-Porter in *Saturday Night People* (BBC 2, 11.15 pm)

reason I have not said much about Larry Grayson's *Comic Strip* (BBC 1, 6.30) is simply that there is not much to say about it. It is unchanging and unchanging, living in two trends here, however, become discernible as the series ends. Ila St Clair, Mr. Grayson's assistant, emerging as a personality in her own right, having deduced a sustaining hand to Mr. Grayson for some time. Mr. Grayson himself is showing that he does not need that much as heretofore. He will never be the world's idliester, nor even the second best. But his more confident or gives us hope that, by the time the next series starts, he will be able to fill out more of the large void left behind Bruce Forsyth closing the channel to ITV.

omnibus title for an omnibus film. *Jazz, Rock and Marriage* (2, 9.00) casts its net wide and lands a pretty hefty catch consisting of material both musical and matrimonial. Barbara Pearson is a British jazz musician. She was classically trained, plays piano, alto and soprano sax as well as clarinet and flute. Her husband, Jon Hensman, is a rock drummer. As spouses, they are pulled together very well; they also have two children. Her husband is showing that he does not need that much as heretofore. He will never be the world's idliester, nor even the second best. But his more confident or gives us hope that, by the time the next series starts, he will be able to fill out more of the large void left behind Bruce Forsyth closing the channel to ITV.

tonight, ITV regaled us with a show in which the can singer-guitarist John Denver ventured into Muppetry. Tonight, the BBC repeats with a show in which Mr. Denver ventures into the same territory. I shall understand how these things are ordained. As it happens, never is a pleasant singer and the Muppets are irresistible. Lasting damage is inflicted on our patience. Also, tonight's show has a Christmas flavour, which last night's did not (BBC1, 8.10).

weekly serial *Two People* (ITV, 10.15) ends tonight. Unhappy teenagers have returned to their respective parents and to school. *Human* does snap at their heels and is made to pay the price for their seeming folly. The film, worked out in Alick Rowe's sensitive script, is sensible. At no point has this been a love affair in which has been made to rhyme with moon.

William Alwyn's opera *Miss Julie* (Radio 3, 7.30) is not to me, so I shall probably listen to it if only to see how it fits into something musical. ... The *Saturday Night Theatre* (Radio 4, 8.30) sounds like fun. *Burglar's Bargains*, by K. Daly, is about two former stalwarts of a prisoners' aid who plan to rob a London store on sales day. It sounds like a comedy.

THE SYMBOLS MEAN: + STEREO; * BLACK AND WHITE; FEAT.

Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Davale

TELEVISION

BBC 1

9.05 am Cut and Thrust: how to improve your eye work. Last of the series.
9.30 Multi-Coloured Swap Shop: Noel Edmonds's all-purpose show for children. Guests include Jimmy Saville.
12.12 pm Weather forecast.
12.15 pm Grandstand: The line-up for: 12.20 Bob Wilson's football review; 12.30 News; 1.00 Sports; 1.30 Pat Thomas v Dave; 1.50 Boxing: Pat Thomas v Dave; 2.00 World Cup; 2.30 World Cup; 2.50 World Cup; 3.15 International Show; 3.30 News; 3.50 Rugby League; 4.00 News; 4.30 Cricket: Australia v England.

BBC 2

2.25 pm Film: *My Side of the Mountain* (1969). Almost true tale of a boy (Robby Eggleton) living alone in the Canadian mountains. Theodore Bikel plays his grown-up. Cozy, pleasant.
4.05 pm *Play Away*: comedy and music show for children. With Brian Cant.
4.30 *The Sky at Night*: repeat of Tuesday's edition in which Patrick Moore shows of Monday's documentary about the brown fat in our bodies that could make us thinner.

London Weekend

4.40 am *Sesame Street*: American series featuring The Muppets and others.
9.40 *The Beagles*: Children's adventure yarn. About three schoolgirl kidnappers.
10.05 *Superman*: our hero becomes a diamond thief.
10.30 *Tiswas*: children's omnibus show. Deliberately luscious in style.
12.30 pm *World of Sport*: The line-up is: 12.30 News; 1.00 Sports; 1.30 News; 1.50 Sports; 2.00 News; 2.30 Sports; 2.50 News; 3.00 Sports; 3.30 News; 3.50 Sports; 4.00 News; 4.30 Sports; 4.50 News; 5.00 Sports; 5.30 News; 5.50 Sports; 6.00 News; 6.30 Sports; 6.50 News; 7.00 Sports; 7.30 News; 7.50 Sports; 8.00 News; 8.30 Sports; 8.50 News; 9.00 Sports; 9.30 News; 9.50 Sports; 10.00 News; 10.30 Sports; 10.50 News; 11.00 Sports; 11.30 News; 11.50 Sports; 12.00 News; 12.30 Sports; 12.50 News; 1.00 Sports; 1.30 News; 1.50 Sports; 2.00 News; 2.30 Sports; 2.50 News; 3.00 Sports; 3.30 News; 3.50 Sports; 4.00 News; 4.30 Sports; 4.50 News; 5.00 Sports; 5.30 News; 5.50 Sports; 6.00 News; 6.30 Sports; 6.50 News; 7.00 Sports; 7.30 News; 7.50 Sports; 8.00 News; 8.30 Sports; 8.50 News; 9.00 Sports; 9.30 News; 9.50 Sports; 10.00 News; 10.30 Sports; 10.50 News; 11.00 Sports; 11.30 News; 11.50 Sports; 12.00 News; 12.30 Sports; 12.50 News; 1.00 Sports; 1.30 News; 1.50 Sports; 2.00 News; 2.30 Sports; 2.50 News; 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Travel

Nostalgia in the Algarve

are no worse travel bore than the one who adopts the "remember when" attitude, or she who knows your favourite holiday long before the first discovered it—and can chaise "tourists" in such a way as to put you, the enthusiastic newcomer, firmly in the past. These are the people I rarely encounter, complaining that any kind of publicity further spoils what they consider to have been spoiled. Their favourite subjects are: "Ah, but you would have been here before I built the hotel/put in the road/cut down the trees/red up the beach to every-"

They are the people who I find fishing villages where they become Benidorms, who remember when they were getting their first holiday, that by not travelling all that time ago, you have missed the best of it.

have been known to ignore myself in a little holiday along similar lines, pining well short of the domestic threshold, naturally, it is universally accepted that the holiday is over. "Analytical," "well-arched," "in depth," or "unprejudiced" are the terms to apply when any holiday is over.

On this tendency, for it is a region I have known for many years. An area that "I remember when..."

It has changed dramatically over the years and not all the changes are for the better. But overall it has improved and thoroughly deserves its present popularity. In fact, this is in part due to the current state of the escudo's value against the pound. First time visitors to Portugal's southern coast anticipate that it will be an extension of the Spanish holiday regions, and are delighted to discover this is far from the case. It is a prosperous region in its own right, with some excellent farming land, and this is always an advantage when any kind of "tourist industry" develops. As long as the visitor from abroad serves to provide the financial icing on an already substantial cake, he will be treated pleasantly and with the natural courtesy he deserves. It is when tourists represent the only source of income that they are alienatively treated, over or "ripped off" and a false relationship is developed. There is none of that in the Algarve.

We flew down there earlier this year to find Faro airport in its usual state of chaos—the result of trying to move too many people through inadequate facilities. New arrivals from Britain, Germany and the Netherlands milled around the luggage conveyor or tried

to manoeuvre their trolleys out through the customs. (Faro airport has gone in for a style of trolley whose front wheels regularly fail to swivel, locking slightly out of true and dragging themselves round in circles. It adds to the fun as you rap a Dutch matron sharply on the ankles and she responds by calling you a clumsy something or other—in German.)

Meticulously the hire car—a mini—was waiting with a full tank and complete paper work. Within five minutes of clearing the airport building we were loaded up and on the way to Monchique.

The geography of the Algarve is relatively simple. Faro, the main town and site of the airport, lies more or less halfway along the south facing coast. Turn right from the airport and the main road will take you past Olhão and Tavira to the town of Vila Real de Santo Antonio on the river Guadiana, which forms the border with Spain. Turn left and the main road, running parallel with the coast, but a little way inland, will carry you to Lagos and Portimão and Lagos and on to Sagres and the point of Cape St Vincent. "O fim do mundo"—the end of the world—is what the Portuguese named it centuries ago, but they were wrong enough to say so, for from that point and on the voyages of discovery. On the cliff tops there,

the family tied to some foreign kitchen sink while the rest take it easy. People no longer take villas for the economy of self-catering, but because that decision provides them with more convenient accommodation and freedom from an hotel routine. On this occasion we rarely dined in, using the kitchen only to make breakfast coffee or a bedtime snack, and patronizing many of the excellent restaurants in Portimão or eating a picnic lunch, having bought the bread and cheese, the tomatoes and olives and wine from the market.

We revisited many old haunts, allowing ourselves to indulge in the "do you remember when?" style of conversation. We found Albufeira no longer to our liking—one pavement café in the main square, which I have previously recommended, has turned itself into a self-service snack bar and is to be avoided at all costs for it is overpriced and not up to the standard I believe a customer deserves.

The Algarve is pleasant at just about any time of the year, though personally I find it much too hot in summer. A spring holiday is particularly pleasant after one has emerged from the gloom of a British winter and by renting a villa inland and keeping off the tourist track one can particularly enjoy the area at that time of year. How pleasant to relax in the sun on a balcony

watching the pines and eucalyptus trees stirring in the afternoon breeze, or to drive aimlessly along the coast, turning down some track or other as fancy dictates and finding a small beach with a snack bar where sardines are grilling and the patron gives the impression it is you that he has been expecting all morning.

An immensely courteous people, the Portuguese. They have passed through troubled times and deserve our respect for that alone, as well as for their dignity.

I made my own travel arrangements with the help of Meon, whose brochure may be had from travel agents, but who are, in case of difficulty, at 32, High Street, Petersfield, Hampshire, GU32 3JL. A number of other companies have properties in the region or specialize in inclusive holidays there, and a competent travel agent will guide you to them. Of these specialists the Travel Club Ltd, at Station Road, Upminster, Essex, does not work through travel agents, so its brochure must be obtained direct.

The Portuguese National Tourist Office at New Bond Street, House 1/5, New Bond Street, London, W1, can provide general information about the region and companies which sell holidays there.

John Carter

Collecting

Art deco at its peak

partnership of the architect Louis Sûe and the painter André Mare began before the World War and became integral with the formation of the *Compagnie des Arts Français* in 1919. Their work, especially their words represented "l'union inside tradition", an extraordinary combination of interests in contemporary European decorative art and the traditions of the past, especially of the Louis Philippe period. Sûe's work is currently the star of an exhibition held at the Foulk Lewis Collection, 4, Fulham Road, London.

is exhibition, although it is probably the largest collection of Sûe et Mare made. It is unusual to see work of this quality outside West End, more especially Raymond, Foulk and Lewis have only been in existence since early in this year. They have held a number of exhibitions of the work of Emile-Jacques Ruhlmann and Sûe et Mare, who represent the highest art deco design.

Art deco is a much debated term, misused, and often properly describes those designers who exhibit the 1925 Paris Exposition des Arts Décoratifs. However, Ruhlmann, the master of reason, also exhibited in the *Pavillon de l'Esprit Nouveau* and other designers, such as Jean Cocteau, Pierre Lévy, Marcel Coard, who were inspired, were also seated there.

1925 Sûe et Mare and Mare had little to do with the Cubism or modernism their work is distinguished

"bountiful nature" theme of the 1830s and 1840s with its rounded forms and garlanded floral motifs, but combined this with the conventionalized large scale motifs and the materials, such as stone, shagreen, ivory, mother-of-pearl and tortoise-shell.

In choosing to concentrate on designers such as Ruhlmann and Sûe et Mare, Raymond Foulk and Jenny Lewis have gone straight for the best of a time when the art deco market is very strong. There is little of such quality which can also be definitely attributed to particular designers and prices are rising steadily. Earlier this year a Ruhlmann bed fetched £20,000 at the Hotel Doucet, Paris and Lewis Kaplan Associates, who recently sold a Sûe et Mare desk similar to the one the Metropolitan Museum in New York bought in 1925, say that at today's prices, it should fetch £10,000 to £12,000. As Raymond Foulk says, it is now better, as prices for all art deco are rising, to miss out the rings of the ladder which usually establish dealers in a new field, and aim directly for the best pieces.

The exhibition includes a chaise longue and lounge suite, which would originally have been covered in bright tapestries, a magnificent chandelier, a commode with brightly painted lacquer, a desk designed by Mathurin Moreau with interior drawers of bird's-eye maple, a favourite wood of the Louis Philippe period, and a cabinet with mother-of-pearl and silver inlay which is possibly one of the finest pieces of French-inspired art deco.

Sûe et Mare echoed the



Commode of Macassar ebony on gilt-wood feet with stained wood marquetry and black and white marble top, by Sûe et Mare c.1925.

the Atelier Mariné also showed two rooms of decorative interiors, including a bedroom, a study and a bathroom. After the interruption of the war, Sûe et Mare returned to Paris in 1925, where they were recognized with Mare's help as the *Compagnie des Arts Français*.

In 1925 the firm exhibited their *Musée d'Art Contemporain* at the Paris Exposition des Arts Décoratifs, which included their modern reinterpretations and refinements of the Louis XV and Louis Philippe periods. They also contributed to three other sections of the exhibition. In 1927 the expanded further their amalgamation of neo-classical idioms and modern influences, this time from Josef Hoffmann's work at the Wiener Werkstätte, in a house designed by Sûe et Mare for Jane Renouard at Saint-Cloud furnished by the partnership.

In 1928 the partnership was dissolved, although their earlier designs were still produced, and André Mare returned to painting until his early death in 1932. Sûe, however, continued a successful career as an architect and also continued his decorative work. During the 1930s he exhibited with the Société des Arts Décoratifs, which included other art deco designers such as Jacques Dunand, Eileen Gray, Pierre Chareau and André Groult and in 1937 he took part in the Paris International Exhibition. Some of his later work was influenced by modernism, as can be seen in a bureau, stool and commode designed in 1933 and included in the Foulk Lewis Collection, which combines circular motifs with plain ash. Such pieces, however, do

not show the integrity and finesse of his earlier work.

Art deco furniture has still to receive a study which will distinguish the influences contained within the style, such as the bold colours of the Fauves and the Ballets Russes, Cubism, African art, the arts and crafts inspired Wiener Werkstätte and Deutscher Werkbund and, not least, the finest traditions of French cabinet-making. The two exhibitions held by the Foulk Lewis Collection this year—together with the comprehensive catalogue they have prepared—go some way towards fulfilling the need for a reassessment of the period.

Isabelle Anscombe

Good Food Guide

Blurring the borders

best meal I have had in London for some time was a curious phrase to be in a letter about a restaurant in Richmond, Surrey, a Surrey man claiming to be the best in his county. After he has to go much further than the Old Deer Park to the ambiguous acres of the GLC and the on telephone system, and that matter the London of the Good Food Book. But underneath the lies a timely question where metropolitan restaurant cooking begins and ends.

Britain, unlike France, has a difference between restaurants in the capital and in the provinces has until the 1970s been a matter of miles to speak, naturally, of the mill places rather than the charmed circle of the *salles* for which no comparison exists. An art's scrutiny of restaurant bills and reports from all

over the country suggests that this is now changing. The £4-£5 that buys a modest, mostly vegetarian Indian meal in the West End will stretch to an Italian lunch in Folkestone or Derby, or a French one on the north Norfolk coast.

Genre for genre, the metropolitan places seldom give more comfort or excitement for one's money in compensation for the widening differential. (The service, indeed, is almost invariably worse in London than it is outside.)

The exceptions to this anti-London thesis are establishments that depend on exotic materials or on a pool of knowledgeable, complicit customers; or—more subtly—places whose owners and chefs are the kind who gather on the vine if they do not have finger access to the latest ideas, techniques and fashions in the culinary art.

"Coming to London" is still a concept that matters to such people, almost as a mythology.

cal rite de passage and in this context, Richmond is evidently not enough. Especially, if, like Stephen Bull of Lichfield's, your previous career has been one of wandering in Llanwrst, Gwynedd, listening to bleats and moos from the field at the back.

There is certainly nothing provincial about the well-spaced restaurant that lies behind Mr Bull's noticeable red awning. (Indeed, one customer who followed him from South Wales nearly had a heart attack at the price and taste of the bottled lager she was given as a complimentary drink. Brain's blither as drunk in Cardiff might well have a peculiar effect on Richmonders.) The miniature cheese *gougères* served as you come in, the meat and wine list are the first sign of urbanity, and crudités with bagna cauda and hummus (£2) contribute a sense of gastronomic catholicity. "The garlic and anchovy taste in the first sauce, and the cumin taste in the second, were subtle with the raw vegetables, especially the broccoli and beans."

The owner's French ambitions are strong enough for him to wish his customers are more fish. His scallop quenelles and red mullet terrine with tomato mousse (£2.75) give one every encouragement to take him at his word, though the taste of the latter dish was better than the visual design. Medallions of beef in Siltion and horseradish sauce, served with a puree of celeriac and a spinach salad, or roast duck with lime compote, preceded perhaps by Roquefort quiche and succeeded by cold coffee and ginger soufflé, have also convinced their eaters that more than just a neighbourhood restaurant is in the making here.

level in the room, just as a cook remarks that the enticing fricassées of John Dory, langoustine, monkfish and scallops in a vermouth sauce might have been in Windsor, or a reduction somewhere, to cut the sweetness.

But anyone who can make such a delicate vegetable terrine, cook rice so separate, master and present duck with blackcurrants, and make excellent pastry for lobster *feuilleté* and pear mille-feuille, does not have to have excuses made for him. Like Lichfield's, Simpson's is making the trouble to choose carefully, and to embark even in these difficult times on the slow accumulation of wines that will make, one day, a cellar worthy of the Barons, too, was an interesting chef in residence at a well managed, pleasantly casual place called Bloomers Brasserie. (This is also one of the few places we have heard of where the pianist attracts more plaudits than the chef.)

even a woman who realized that her sighs had carried to his ears as he approached the instrument was moved to apologize on her way out.)

Moira Lester fries champion potatoes provensale, stuffed with crab-meat, very deftly, and also enjoys doing a frimousse de laitances sauce moutarde, and foie de veau au Cointreau. But a Guide inspector was chiefly impressed by the canard au citron vert (£3.75): "I'd love to be able to do it as crisply myself, and the profiteroles for pudding were unusually light too." The tropical fruit cocktail that Jean-Pierre, the barman, mixes at about £1.85 a throw also sound ideal for people who would like to pretend, as Christmas approaches, that the Thames is the Amazon.

One is back with a different and more familiar kind of professionalism at Gino's, the San-tin's very handsome restaurant with a picture window on to the river, and indoors, plants, playwood, and plate displays. The best of Andrea Zaccaria's cooking, by various accounts, is the pasta, which is at once delicately made and richly sauced; moreover, "the

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So much space to explore—underfoot

A small band of enthusiasts gathered in London last week to extol the advantages and delights of what they called, rather unappealingly, "subsurface space" or, in layman's language, the underground. The approach was distinctly evangelical.

To these assorted engineers, businessmen and bureaucrats, the concept of underground living was a serious business and no fit subject for jokes about, subterranean holes or bomb shelters. Neither was there much encouragement for efforts to draw a connexion between the tunnelling industry, which is said to have fallen on its knees lately, and this most recent attempt to regenerate enthusiasm for an engineering concept that has, after all, been around for at least as long as the Metropolitan Line.

The tunnelling fraternity was, nonetheless, conspicuously present. The occasion was in effect a sales pitch for "Rockstore 80", a symposium on the uses of subsurface space to be held in Stockholm next June, sponsored in part by the Swedish government and the United Nations Centre for Natural Resources, Energy and Transport.

Insofar as public attention has been directed underground at all in recent years, the emphasis has been on new ways of burying and, it is hoped, forgetting, deadly pollutants of various kinds, especially radioactive wastes.

The Rockstore organizers see underground space as a natural resource in itself, and argue that we should not confine our use of it to the unwanted products from the surface.

Examples of more creative exploitation are surprisingly numerous. In Oslo, the Norwegian national archives occupy 90,000 metres of shelf space underground. More than a million cubic metres of rock caverns in the Swedish city of Gothenburg. Throughout the Scandinavian countries, which tend to take the lead in such matters, the subsurface environment has been applied to cold stores, sewage treatment plants, municipal heating installations, swimming pools and auditoriums.

The Swedes even have a giant wine cellar, where the state monopoly's supplies repose in vast stainless steel casks and not a cobweb in sight.

Enthusiasm can be infectious, even when the idea itself is not immediately attractive. And underground installations do tend to be energy-saving, non-polluting and reasonably cheap. Once the initial costs of engineers got into their stride last week, the notion of underground offices, factories, even living accommodation, seemed plausible.

Only later did the doubts—mainly an instinctive, probably ineradicable tendency to claustrophobia—set in.

Priceless bits of esoterica tend to surface on such occasions. Never mind the insulating properties of the underground ambience, the diagnosis comparing capital investment, social cost-benefit analysis and temperamental dispersal.

These pale into insignificance against the news that only one garbage collector in Stockholm has retired since his job in retirement age, such are the rigours of above-the-surface waste disposal among the fastidious Swedes; or that ownership of land extends at least in theory, to the wedge shape from the edges of the property to the very centre of the earth.

The discussion of sub-surface space took place at the office of the Swedish trade commissioner, on the fourth floor. The smorgasbord was lovely, and the assembled experts seemed to enjoy the view.

Tony Samstag

Fred Emery

Cut, cut and be damned

Mrs Thatcher's driving has responded rather dramatically to those too-knowing predictions that there would have to be a U-turn to avert the economic pile-up. By vowing yet further cuts in public spending next year she is in fact pressing ahead—driving through the lights, or even trying to push past on the wrong side. Take your pick of motoring metaphors.

There can be no doubting here of a deliberate change of policy, but it is a hardening one, and typically a riskier one. Last month public spending was not being cut, only held, so we were told. Now there has been another, tougher look. Of course, the Government has all along been committed to reducing public spending, but it has changed its view of the possible.

About the time of the party conferences there had been a faltering of the always-give-it-to-you-straight approach, or at least a muddle of signals. The Prime Minister, in her only published interview so far with a British source (Americans have been better favoured with tomorrow's visit to the United States in mind) professed to "not" imagine that spending was not in fact being cut. Her interviewer did not challenge her. But even Tories all over the country had some difficulty explaining why hospitals were closing and social services cut. Yet to preserve this undoubted accuracy in terms of overall expenditure, the in-word was "stabilizing", holding spending as this year's level when the White Paper came out last month. Ministers explained that they would have liked to cut more but that it could not reasonably be done.

Suddenly, for the first time it is openly admitted at Downing Street and at the Treasury that there are to be

cuts in real terms in spending, and next year, not later.

The details are not yet clear, but there is no doubting that the ending of indexing of benefit payments is very much in Sir Geoffrey Howe's mind. And the Chancellor is after more than the £500m saving reported—that being over and above whatever discount may be extracted from the £1,000m due to our EEC contribution next year. There are harsh political implications in cutting social benefits for those Mrs Thatcher terms the work-shy (and strikers' families, too) while preparing to accept unemployment of two million by the end of 1980. But although "remedial" measures will be on offer to steel towns in a state of shock, the Government seems undeterred by any opinion poll warning signs of intensifying class divisions.

Why the hardening? Economic colleagues will spell out the fine print. But obviously the constraints of monetary policy compel either an increase in taxes or a further cut in borrowing. To increase income tax would be the worst heresy and failure this Government could imagine, so cuts will have to come in spending.

But Mrs Thatcher has not been influenced by political developments in her own party. Complaints solidified in the Conservative MPs' 1972 Committee two weeks ago that the Government was not going far enough. One argument was that with lending rate impossibly high the Government should stop pussyfooting with this talk of "stabilizing". If we're damned by the cuts, then cut and be damned again, especially manpower, was the way the message went. Don't give in to the anxious "better not-ers" either in the civil service or the Cabinet ran one theme.

It is this wind from the right quarter that Mrs Thatcher and her economic colleagues have chosen to seek out and catch. Appropriately, it was to the 1922 Committee that Mrs Thatcher gave the news the right-wing wanted. As they banged desks in traditional end-of-term fashion she had a timely reminder, that although applause was nice she hoped they would not "duck the reality"—of the bleakness certain to come as hard times get worse.

One way she has sought out this wind is by some remarkably direct contact with her backbenchers. She is now reliably reported to be doing twice a week sweeps at the Commons with Conservative MPs, the master arranged at random as it were, by her parliamentary private secretary, Mr Ian Gow. Such contact and access could stand her in good stead in future troubles.

The decision to gamble high on this first year in office, doing perhaps more unpopular things than has any government since the Second World War, has been unexpected. Speculation inside the Cabinet counsel that although they are ultimately confident there will have to be some tempering of the monetarist mania (Mr Denis Healey's term), they will take longer to come from Mrs Thatcher and her team than with any other government in memory. The dogma is there; the doctrine is clear that the economy has got to be bench tested (not to destruction, they shudder) to get the model right. And there is no arguing with it. Indeed, there is no arguing about it.

When Sir Geoffrey Howe says that, apart from the far-left's "alternative" economy, there is no other policy in the market he means inside the Cabinet.

This is less surprising when put against a more astonishing fact: that there has still been no full Cabinet discussion of economic policy. Ministers not on the immediate economy team are presented with decisions taken by colleagues in committee like so many fairs accomplices. There is time for the odd question, but no encouragement for it; their privilege is a brief, prior notification ahead of the public announcement for the Stock Exchange.

Things have perhaps not changed much since Crossman's time. But the present Cabinet is made up of right-wingers is clearly inaccurate. At some future fork in the road it would not be a majority that would have to change its mind. But the moment is clearly still a long way off when, say, Whitelaw, Hailsham, Carrington, Fyfe, Soames, Prior, Gilmour, Walker, St John Stevas, or Carlisle (in order only of Cabinet listing) might move to apply the brakes, if not turn the wheels round.

The full-throated team speak openly in terms of "decade" power. The Prime Minister puts it at "two or three governments" (under her leadership) being needed before things can come out right.

This is the tantalising long-haul American Presidents dream of of purging through "two terms" Mrs Thatcher might ponder in her dash to Washington and New York and back how difficult reelection has become. Two recent incumbents got target fixation, by being—to conclude by switching from a motorway to a diving mesa. But she is transfixed with hitting the damned thing that they flew straight into it.

appeared, is its chief ornament and has great international prestige. The unique Archaeological Reports, the Library and slides collection, and lectures built in London and the provinces are other important activities.

The president of the society, Geoffrey Kirk, Regius Professor of Greek, said: "We want to do more to help those who are fighting tooth and nail to keep the teaching and learning of ancient Greek alive. It is the best of the non-vocational subjects, because of its variety, richness, and influence."

The society is right to be vigilant. There are forces in our modern world that are inimical to excellence, and to artistic and intellectual endeavour. But the society has always been going to be drawn to read some of the greatest literature ever written in the original, and to study the basis of our culture. Unless barbarism becomes universal, the Hellenic Society will stand as a pillar of English civilisation until the crack of doom.

Philip Howard

When the bright lights go out

Every night, a group of tired young people gathers outside a pair of locked gates in London's Soho. At 8pm, the gates are opened, and the Centrepoint night shelter begins to fill up with the fortunate ones who have managed to get a bed for the night.

Thousands of young people come to London each year with high expectations. There, they think, they will find a job, a home and a social life among the bright lights. But they have made no plans; many have walked out with very little money after quarrelling with their parents. And there comes a time when the bright lights go out, and London becomes an inhospitable place.

After one or two days in the West End, their money probably gone on a night's accommodation in a hotel and a cheap meal, they become desperate.

Alone, without friends, they begin to sleep rough and scrounge for food. Their plight is getting worse, as their numbers increase, and those who are trying to help them face an uncertain future with anxiety.

We are not only anxious, but angry too, because we are afraid that we may not get the money to carry on because of the Government's expenditure cuts," says Mr Nicolas Fenton, Centrepoint's coordinator.

"We see the young coming to London, drifting and then panicking. They try to establish themselves, but it is a difficult task, and it is not surprising when they fail. We are there to help, but what will happen to them if we are no longer there?"

Exactly 10 years ago, Father Kenneth Leech, then curate of St Anne's Church, Soho, felt that something was being done to help the youngsters that he saw sleeping rough around Piccadilly Circus.

The basement of the church was opened as a night shelter. It was rough and ready—mattresses on the floor—but it was better than the streets. In 1972, Centrepoint was registered as a charity, and Mr Fenton became coordinator in 1975. There are now 13 full-time workers, backed up by about 50 volunteer assistants.

Every night, the ground floor evening meal, which often includes food given by Soho restaurants, and make up the bunk beds in the boys and girls' dormitories. Up to 30 are taken in each night.

"After a meal, the young people can have a chat about their circumstances, and give advice on how to go about getting a job, and how to obtain help from the appropriate agencies," says Mr Fenton. "Generally, we tell them how to survive in London. I have prepared a 'survival guide' which gives a lot of information. They get up, fast, and after breakfast a encouraged to try to do something positive with their day."

Very few of the young people go straight to Centrepoint. They have tried to make a success of London, and he failed. After a few days, they hear about the night shelter the grapevine.

"They come out with adequate support, and a dumped at one of our probation officers or a psychiatric social worker. And there is third group; the ones, so only 17 years old, who are on the way to becoming permanent dwellers," he said.

Last year, 2,000 people were taken in, most staying two or three nights. This year, the number has increased to 3,000. The Government provided £40,000 last year, towards Centrepoint's £82,000 running costs. But those costs will rise to well over £100,000 next year.

"At best, we think that might receive the same amount from government at a time when we need more. This is not just because of inflation but because we are seeing increasing number of people he said.

"We used to approach a charitable trusts for a loan of our finances, but next year we shall be relying on our own resources. But they are getting increased demands from other organizations with similar difficulties. I have, probably because I cannot get more than six months in advance."

"But all around we are seeing voluntary projects a homeless being forced to close so it is no wonder that we are frightened for Centrepoint. Centrepoint's existence is being of more and more young people, some with "O" level and polytechnic qualification sleeping rough in back alleys and stations."

"If we are forced to restrict services, it is close enough to what is going to happen to young people who find themselves lost, alone and frightened?"

Penny Syme

Let's put a stop to the retreat from Greek

Greece is the mother of European culture. But there is a paradox about the special relationship between Britain and Greece. On the one hand more Britons can afford to visit Greece than ever before; there is a mass readership for ancient Greek literature in translation; Greek plays are produced on television, radio, and film, often closely enough to the original Muse not to make Medusa's hair stand on end; there is a popular interest in our cultural roots.

On the other hand the study of Greek is in retreat before more obviously vocational subjects, so that Cassandra's cry of disappearing completely from our schools.

Who needs Greek when they can study economics, sociology, and other more relevant subjects? Surely the only advantage of a classical education these days is that it prepares one to live at peace without the income that it precludes one from earning? A question inviting the answer No.

Our sure Palladium against the death of Greek, the Society for the Promotion of Hellenic Studies, is celebrating its centenary. This most engaging of learned societies has always embraced both professional scholars and amateurs in the best sense. George Macmillan had the original inspiration, after having gone straight from Eton into the family publishing house and being taken on a tour of Greece as a compensation for not going to university.

The founding fathers included such amateurs as Oscar Wilde and Arthur Balfour. Those were golden days for Greek. The inaugural address showed that travel to Greece was more than a holiday; it was a holiday. The Englishman often travels with great advantage, such as the power of visiting out-of-the-way places by yacht. The first vice-president persuaded the government to lend him a warship, an engineer, and sappers for his excavation at Halicarnassus.

When the Hellenic Society celebrated its jubilee *The Times* uttered not one, but two leaders to make *Demos* shush his teeth with envy. In his jubilee address, the editor Murray put the case for the value of Greek studies: "To escape from the anarchy of momentary desires to the Cosmos of reason; to see beyond the person of the moment to the person of the future; to find the 'heavenly spirits' from which the human spirit draws its life; these seem to me the two needs that are most pressing in the present strange and interesting

and dangerous epoch of world history, and I know of no better way of meeting both needs than through those Hellenic studies which this society is intended to promote."

Today the case is still unanswerable; the needs are even more pressing. The Hellenic Society has celebrated its century fittingly with a colloquium and a delegation to Greece. There is an appeal to consolidate and extend the society's activities; Sir Kenneth Dover at Corpus Christi College, Oxford, will supply further information.

From its beginning the society has conceived Hellenic studies broadly, and its activities today include archaeology and art, language and literature, history and philosophy. Its *Journal*, of which the nine-yearly issue recently

appeared, is its chief ornament and has great international prestige. The unique Archaeological Reports, the Library and slides collection, and lectures built in London and the provinces are other important activities.

The president of the society, Geoffrey Kirk, Regius Professor of Greek, said: "We want to do more to help those who are fighting tooth and nail to keep the teaching and learning of ancient Greek alive. It is the best of the non-vocational subjects, because of its variety, richness, and influence."

The society is right to be vigilant. There are forces in our modern world that are inimical to excellence, and to artistic and intellectual endeavour. But the society has always been going to be drawn to read some of the greatest literature ever written in the original, and to study the basis of our culture. Unless barbarism becomes universal, the Hellenic Society will stand as a pillar of English civilisation until the crack of doom.

Philip Howard

Can Governor Brown break out of being a hopeless third?

New Hampshire. The Governor of California, Mr Jerry Brown, got lost in the wilds of New Hampshire the other evening. His convoy of half a dozen cars and one very battered van got lost in the byways of that beautiful state, in an attempt to drive from Dover to Exeter by the shortest route.

He had attended a party in Dover, in the pretty and very expensive house of one of his few supporters in the state, and wanted to reach the much larger and much more expensive home of another, hoping to get there before 10 o'clock. Instead, he got hopelessly lost—rather a poor omen for his campaign.

The sole representative there of the international press was able to reassure Mr Brown's nervous assistants: The press line following Mr George Bush earlier in the day, filled with people who had been working the state for months, had got lost in the same parts that afternoon, in broad daylight.

The second party supplied food and drink, as needed, and Mr Brown, when his time came to speak, influenced perhaps by the delay or the lateness of the hour, the audience of the evening managed to be lucid, sensible and persuasive. He may even have induced one or two of those present to decide to vote for him.

His earlier talk, in Dover, had

been very different. One of his three main priorities, he said, is exploring the universe, "I mean that literally." He described various technological benefits of the space programme, and went on to bring the day closer to people who will get a greater sense of their unity as people on this planet, as opposed to their parochial differences. While this may be a while in coming, never helms as we expand in space, as we link the world by the nervous system of satellite communications, we will bring this world closer together."

The Governor spoke about ecology: "My first priority is protecting the earth," he said. "We must stop polluting the streams." The United States must give up nuclear energy, ration petrol, control the import of oil, develop "small gas." We must have more inventions, more craft, more skill.

Mr Brown, evidently, is not like other candidates. They stick to safe banalities, while he strikes out on his own, in search for originality. His remarks are swamped by the total gibberish of the rest of it.

He was asked about relations between President and Congress, and about his lack of experience in Washington. Mr Carter has been frequently

accused of failing to get legislation passed because of his ignorance of the ways of Washington. Mr Brown observed that Washington and Sacramento are really much the same, factually the same, and that the same differences between legislature and executive—a claim that will hardly win him much respect or many votes, even in California.

Then he went on to observe that congressional resistance to presidential leadership is not just a dislike of the man in the White House but a reflection of the pressures put upon each Congressman by the voters of his district and the stresses of the times. Congress has always moved slowly, with few exceptions, since 1933 at Johnson's presidency. Things will change when the pressures on Congress change, and it is unfair to blame the President for his frustrations.

This is eminently sensible, and a useful corrective to the strident claims of other candidates that what is needed is "leadership"—which each of them professes to be uniquely able to provide.

Mr Brown does not believe in such glib answers. "What I say is not just 'leadership', not just another person, rather a coming together of people of like minds to change the government. President, unless his rivals all



Governor Brown: new world?

coalition that will make decisive action possible."

Mr Brown is at least stimulating, perhaps even more than Senator Kennedy. People either admire him and are entranced by the dancing visions of the new world that he offers, or else they are vastly irritated by his claim to have discovered those visions from California advocating a solution to the problems of the universe through deep breathing, love, hot baths or jogging.

It will not get him elected. He will not get him elected. He will not get him elected. He will not get him elected.

collapse before the force of his rhetoric. He is taking part in a public debate with President Carter and Senator Kennedy in Iowa in January and it should be an interesting occasion. The chief challenge will be Mr Kennedy's performance. Mr Brown's staff is looking forward to the event as their man's only hope of breaking out of a hopeless third place by demolishing Mr Kennedy.

The New Hampshire primary campaign is the stage of the presidential election during which candidates make themselves known to the electorate. Issues are hardly discussed. Candidates, particularly the outsiders like George Bush, John Connally and the half a dozen other Republicans and Jerry Brown alone of the Democrats, have to win enough personal converts by direct persuasion to do well in the vote.

A few hundred voters can make all the difference, which is why every candidate is every election since 1968 has followed the example set them by Senator McCarthy, and devoted himself to attending small gatherings at which to exert his charm and persuasiveness on small numbers of New Hampshireites.

The technique does not work in large states, such as Massachusetts and Florida, the next two states to hold primaries, with hundreds of thousands of

voters who can only be reached by television.

In New Hampshire, each voter can be met, have his hand shaken, have the candidate look him straight in the eyes and pronounce his name, and asking him individually for his help. Indeed, each voter may be thus approached by each of a dozen candidates several times and, if he expresses any intention of voting for one of them, then reminded and driven to the polls by some ardent volunteer.

There are still plenty of people in New Hampshire who were wooed and won by Jimmy Carter in 1976, and who will vote for him again in memory of their discrimination.

In choosing a winner four years ago, Mr Brown is trying to build up the same network of dedicated supporters that Mr Carter found for himself. Mr Carter ignored love, honesty and good government. Mr Brown's promises are more diffuse, and he has started much later in the season than Mr Carter.

Mr Brown suffers from the disadvantage of full-time employment. Mr Carter was out of work (as is Mr George Bush this time) and could devote himself to campaigning ceaselessly for two years or more before the first primary. Mr Brown has to govern California in the intervals of campaigning, and if he neglects that job, his

rivals will not fail to draw voters' attention to his dereliction of duty. Mr Carter, indeed, is making a virtue of staying in Washington to mind the ship during the Irish crisis.

And it is an absurd way of choosing a President, but outsiders love it. George Bush and John Connally this time Jimmy Carter last time, would stand no chance at all if primaries were all held in a autumn of the election, with the party conventions following them. They therefore defend the system—as does President, reluctantly; after all, he got him to the White House however much he would like to abbreviate the competition now.

Mr Brown is better known than Mr Carter was, Governor of the most populous state a bearer of graces deluged from the West—but still an outsider. It is his misfortune that his first challenges will be in New Hampshire, Massachusetts and Florida, all places inhospitable to him. He will rival the President and the Senate waste no time on sympathy Governor Brown. Neither thinks him a serious candidate, both expect a fight to the finish, to be decided in summer, perhaps at the convention in New York, in August. It is going to be a long war.

Patrick Brogue

Lone British outsider with Rosi

One of the advantages of reporting ski races is that I am time to time to bring you into contact with Rosi Mittermaier. She will be remembered as the West German charmer who won two gold medals and a silver at the last Winter Olympics at Innsbruck, four years ago.

With another Winter Olympics in the offing, it seemed an appropriate time to take stock of her fortunes since retiring on those glittering laurels. Through the Mark McCormack management organization—otherwise concerned with, among others, such diverse celebrities as Tony Jacklin, Jackie Stewart and Angela Ripston—she entered into contract with seven manufacturers. The three-year contract with McCormack has expired, but most of the manufacturers' agreements remain so that Miss Mittermaier, who springs from a homely family in Winklmoosalm, near the Austrian border south-east of Munich, has

become almost willy-nilly a business woman.

But as I, a lone outsider, sat among the German contingent at Val d'Isère in the French Alps last week, I quickly learnt that she was no unscrupulous go-getting tycoon. From the start, Rosi (nobody calls her anything else) insisted that all her business negotiations would have to do with her sport—ski, boots, clothing, etc.—and that she would have to be involved in the design and development as well as marketing.

She refused to have any truck with cosmetics (which she clearly does not use) or toothpaste (which, just as clearly, she does). I asked her if a million marks would tempt her into cigarette advertising. "Never," she retorted in English, with the emphasis of a firm commitment. She claims she is not the wealthy woman people take her to be, after paying 25 per cent to the McCormack organization, for three years at least, and 40 per cent to the government.

As an investment, she and Christian Neureuther, the second member of the German ski team, have established a sports complex at Deggendorf, between Munich and Nuremberg.

It houses four tennis courts, two squash courts, six bowling lanes and a restaurant. Her close relationship with Neureuther is well known and I asked her, now 29, about marriage. Yes, that would be possible if Christian gave up ski racing after the Olympics in February. And when might we see a baby Mittermaier, I asked, thrown off guard by that dazzling, dimpled smile and winning personality. Perhaps next year, she said, "but it will be a baby Neureuther". Lucky man.

Vale of tears

The reply came pat: "February 12 at two minutes past eight." It is a tragic date in Val d'Isère history, engraved deep in the memory of Michel Grosjean, director of the UCPA centre there. The Union de Centres de Plein Air is a government-backed organization, designed to encourage young people to indulge in healthy activities far from the polluted atmospheres of industrial areas.

The UCPA was crowded that horrid morning, when Val d'Isère became a vale of tears. It suddenly became as dark as night, Mr Grosjean recalled,

and the main building was engulfed by one of the heaviest avalanches the Alps had known. Forty lives were lost, including two on the road out, side, as a weight of powder snow estimated at 10,000 tons shot down the Dome mountain opposite at a speed approaching 200mph. It bore a parallel to Aberfan's home. The snow poured into the broken windows and only 60 of the 98 young people in the northern dining room escaped. The rest were crushed against the wall of the room.

This, of course, is now haunting history. But I was surprised to see the building, a sturdy structure mainly of functional concrete (hence there was little damage from the avalanche), still in place. There was no point in evacuating it permanently, "otherwise we would have had to evacuate half of Val d'Isère."

Out of sight, however, barriers have been erected over the site of the disaster, and the Dome to prevent a recurrence and arrangements for temporary evacuation have been made, not only for the UCPA but elsewhere, against the remote possibility of a second tragedy.

But few people can visualize another blizzard blowing from the south at 180 mph for four days on end, and depositing eight metres of snow in so short a time. After five years the UCPA building was reopened. I suggested there was still a risk. Certainly, "but there is always danger in the mountains and what would life be without some element of risk?"

Chic but cheap

Val d'Isère is a chic and expensive ski resort, not the kind of place you would expect to find an hotelier like Albert Dumas. Advance information proved incorrect, but it was not all that wide of the mark. He described himself as an "homme de gauche", though belonging to no party. He is an admirer of the Soviet Union, and believes that much of what we read about that country is exaggerated.

In 1969 he and his wife, who does not share his political leanings, spent three weeks touring by car in the Soviet Union. He said that they had suffered no kind of restriction

wherever they went, from Leningrad to the Black Sea, and were rarely asked to show identity papers. Dissidents? Had not Victor Hugo been driven out of France?

Agree with him or not, most people, including the British ski team, accept that he practices what he preaches. The Foyer de Ski is the cheapest hotel in Val d'Isère, at 25 francs (less than £10) full board just now, rising to 95 francs in high season. It has a touch of class distinction in the fact that locals eat off bare tables, whereas tourists are provided with table cloths. Mr Dumas has a ready answer. The locals pay 10 francs less for a meal.



At first glance, the motif for the World Cup Ski competition, reproduced here, looks like an advertisement for cigarettes. At second glance, it still looks like an advertisement for cigarettes. Closer inspection reveals a reference to clothing.

No doubt it is all very innocent—but not everyone agrees. The French television authorities are among the doubters, with the result that the sponsors were prevented from flaunting their banners when the World Cup races were held at Val d'Isère.

The initiative for the link between cigarettes and clothing, I am told, came from Italy, where a manufacturer hit upon the idea of branding his wares under an already well-known motif. He pays the Philip Morris organization, makers of the cigarettes concerned, royalties on his products. But his dependence on the big combine is such that public relations at Val d'Isère were undertaken by a company employed by Philip Morris.

The International Ski Federation refused to say how much the sponsorship is costing the clothing manufacturer, but an authoritative guess was £250,000. The turnover of Marlboro Leisure Wear is £1,500,000. The turnover of Philip Morris the last year was \$6,632,463,000.

John Hennessy





The prospect of an election campaign in Canada's Behaviour

THE LORDS HAVE LEFT IT TO MR PRIOR

Journalists' closed shop

Employers of provincial journalists, encouraged by the absence of a press charter, continue to deny closed shops on the excuse that they wanted for a purpose other than effective collective bargaining. Their final offer in current negoti-

Two questions arise: would the law work; and would it create martyrs? As to its working, nobody expects that em-

EN ASHTON, General Secretary,
National Union of Journalists,
Corn House,
4/320 Gray's Inn Road, WC1.
December 11..

...dynamism to the glory and power of a prison sentence. The Bill would not allow a person to sue for damages (either secondary picketing or blacking if that were added. Yet the employer cannot be denied the use of the injunction unlike the person who sues for damages, it is the only sanction that can be made to bite at once. The Bill should be amended, therefore, to provide that any proceeding under it by way of injunction should be enforceable only by fines and not by imprisonment. It is true that a really determined martyr would even so be able to refuse to pay a fine, but he would be a good deal less easy and attractive to sympathizers than the normal procedure under common law.

Reviving Civil Defence

quing, for-emergency way of
 considering a defence capability
 is to raise county emergency
 teams at parish and community level.
 Our Devon Emergency Volunteers
 are recognized by the Home Office and
 supported by the County Council,
 have already recruited and are
 training 800 members.
 The message is there: the
 need is for national leadership. The
 Home Office is not providing this.
 Thank goodness *The Times* is back
 to bring its influence to bear to
 wake-up Westminster and White-
 hall to the need for action.
 Yours faithfully,
 ELVIN SPENCER,
 Wootton,
 Transcombe,
 Seaton, Devon.

From Mr Anthony P. Newbold

From Mr Anthony P. Newbold

Yours faithfully,
A. P. NEWBOLD,
The White House,
Datchet Road,
Old Windsor,
Berkshire.
December 14.

From Lady Burton of Coventry held by

Sir, Have we, the radical centre of

Amalgamating schools I cannot

From Mr P. A. Newsam
 Sir, In his article, "Roads and

secondary school reorganization

educational offer is, if anything, enhanced. I do not know why. But I should suppose that amalgamation leads to reduced curriculum opportunities. That is both unwise and irrational.

From Mr Peter Large

Sir, It was fine to read in your third leader (December 7) that

This "compassionate approach" as you rightly call it, has been advocated by the Disablement Income Group for many years for both adults and children. Progress towards the national disability income that this approach demands has been

extra costs of living ability.

However, the previous Government did at least agree to stop

European Parliament to reject the 1980 EEC budget by a massive majority drawn from all countries and parties, demonstrates that when national interests are subordinated to the wider good of the Community, fairness and common sense are more likely to prevail.

From Mr William Lyne

Sir, It is surely rather sweeping
Mr Barry Millington in his con-

December 10) of Mme Réjane's Wignore Hall recital of December 8, to assume knowledge of the tastes and interests of its admirers. I assure him that many of us, including the famous singer who came to hear her, are indeed "devotees of the Lied à la Mélodie". This is why we agree with the other critics, presumabably devotees of these art forms, when they state in this morning's papers (December 10) that "T

From Mrs Irene Bruce

From Mrs Irene Bruce

supply of au pairs to British families. Certainly the proposals affect over half the business of this agency and of many other agencies who have contacted me. The Government themselves are wasting few words on either explaining or justifying the proposals.

*From the Chairman of the
Museum Benefits Committee*

Sir, It seems cheerless to correct a

Yours, etc,
DAVID DONNISON,
Chairman, Supplementary Benefits
Commission,
New Court,
Carey Street, WC2.
December 13.

From Mr Egon Ronc
 Sir, The Honorable

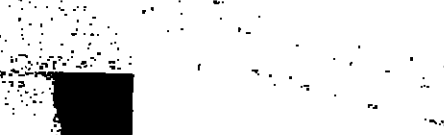
British Tourist Authority's task in four United States areas (Chicago,

May I say that all three operatives are of a remarkably high calibre, but are absurdly overstretched and under-staffed, each covering substantially bigger areas than the size of Britain. These, together with the New York area, are our most lucrative markets for invisible export, worth remembering when the BTA's inadequate funds are being reallocated by the Government next time.

From Lord Reading

Sir, No doubt there were many entertaining variations in our

entertaining variations, in our
 Imperial years, on the theme of
 Lord Caradon's delightful story in
 his letter dated December 11. It
 may, perhaps, be worth recalling
 the message on a banner which
 greeted my grandparents on one of
 their State visits in India. It read :
 "God bless the Viceroy : God help
 Lady Reading".
 Yours faithfully,
 READING.
 House of Lords.
 December 1941.



SPORT

Rugby Union

Scotland are looking for better form from their backs

By Peter West

Rugby Correspondent

There can be no doubt where most of Scotland's selectors will be looking for improvement in the coming season. The backs, and in particular the wing, are the area which the selectors will be looking for improvement in. The wing, in particular, is the area which the selectors will be looking for improvement in. The wing, in particular, is the area which the selectors will be looking for improvement in.

Llanelli on neutral ground

While most major Welsh clubs are looking for improvement in the coming season, Llanelli is looking for improvement in the coming season. Llanelli is looking for improvement in the coming season. Llanelli is looking for improvement in the coming season.

Skiing

Mrs Moser promises to go one better

Plavancova, Dec 14 - Marie-Therese Nadig, of Switzerland, kept the women's World Cup ski title firmly in her sight today. Mrs Moser said she was determined to go one better than she did in the previous year.

Weekend fixtures

Table with 2 columns: Fixture, Result.

FA Cup, second round

Nick-op 3.0 (15) vs Blackburn v. Sheffield (1.15)

Bury v. York City (3.15)

Carlisle v. Sheffield U. (3.15)

Chesham v. Merthyr (3.15)

Chester v. Barnsley (3.15)

Colchester v. Bournemouth (3.15)

Croydon v. Millwall (3.15)

Darlington v. Bradford C. (3.15)

Doncaster v. Mansfield (3.15)

Grimby v. Sheffield U. (3.15)

Hereford v. Aldershot (3.15)

Northwich Vic v. Wigan (3.15)

Reading v. Barking (3.15)

Rotherham v. Altrincham (3.15)

Southend v. Barrow (3.15)

Torquay v. Swindon (3.15)

Tranmere v. Rochdale (3.15)

Walsall v. Halifax (3.15)

Wimbledon v. Portsmouth (3.15)

Yeovil v. Slough (3.15)

First division

Table with 2 columns: Fixture, Result.

Bolton v. Ipswich (3.15)

Brighton v. Stoke (3.15)

Coventry v. Manchester U. (3.15)

Leeds v. Wolverhampton (3.15)

Liverpool v. Crystal P. (3.15)

Manchester C. v. Derby (3.15)

Nottingham v. Bristol C. (3.15)

Nottingham v. Middlesbrough (3.15)

Southampton v. Everton (3.15)

Tottenham v. Aston Villa (3.15)

West Bromwich v. Arsenal (3.15)

Second division

Table with 2 columns: Fixture, Result.

Birmingham v. Burnley (3.15)

Bristol R. v. Oldham (3.15)

Cambridge U. v. Fulham (3.15)

Cardiff v. Preston N.E. (2.15)

Charlton v. Leicester (3.15)

Chelsea v. Swansea (3.15)

Newcastle v. Q.P. Rangers (3.15)

Oxford v. Notts C. (3.15)

Shrewsbury v. West Ham (3.15)

Watford v. Sunderland (3.15)

Wrexham v. Luton (3.15)

Third division

Table with 2 columns: Fixture, Result.

Brentford v. Oxford U. (3.15)

Fourth division

Table with 2 columns: Fixture, Result.

Newport v. Scunthorpe (3.15)

Lacrosse

NORTH OF ENGLAND LEAGUE

Leeds v. Bradford (3.15)

Leeds v. Bradford (3.15)

Leeds v. Bradford (3.15)

Men on the fringe try to sway selectors

By Richard Streton

Players on the fringe of England's national team are looking for a chance to impress the selectors. The selectors are looking for improvement in the coming season. The selectors are looking for improvement in the coming season.

Ascot programme

[Television (BBC 1): 12.50, 1.25, 1.55 and 2.30 races]

12.50 LONG WALK HURDLE (2,863 3/4m)

1. 00-00-00 Captain's Lad (Mrs E. Mitchell, 7-11.4)

2. 00-00-00 King of the Hill (Mrs E. Mitchell, 7-11.4)

3. 00-00-00 Captain's Lad (Mrs E. Mitchell, 7-11.4)

Nottingham programme

[Television (BBC 1): 1.30, 2.0, 2.30 and 3.0 races]

1.0 OUZO CHASE (Novices: 1,132 2m)

1. 00-00-00 Captain's Lad (Mrs E. Mitchell, 7-11.4)

2. 00-00-00 King of the Hill (Mrs E. Mitchell, 7-11.4)

3. 00-00-00 Captain's Lad (Mrs E. Mitchell, 7-11.4)

Devon and Exeter

12.30 (12.30) CHUDLEIGH HURDLE

1. 00-00-00 Captain's Lad (Mrs E. Mitchell, 7-11.4)

2. 00-00-00 King of the Hill (Mrs E. Mitchell, 7-11.4)

3. 00-00-00 Captain's Lad (Mrs E. Mitchell, 7-11.4)

Television highlights

BBC 1

Football: Preview (12.20); Match of the Day (12.30)

Football: Preview (12.20); Match of the Day (12.30)

Football: Preview (12.20); Match of the Day (12.30)

Rugby Union

Table with 2 columns: Fixture, Result.

Welsh Cup (Second round)

Cardiff v. Newport (3.15)

Cardiff v. Newport (3.15)

Cardiff v. Newport (3.15)

Club matches

Table with 2 columns: Fixture, Result.

Cardiff v. Newport (3.15)

Cardiff v. Newport (3.15)

Cardiff v. Newport (3.15)

Television highlights

Table with 2 columns: Fixture, Result.

Cardiff v. Newport (3.15)

Cardiff v. Newport (3.15)

Cardiff v. Newport (3.15)

Television highlights

Table with 2 columns: Fixture, Result.

Cardiff v. Newport (3.15)

Cardiff v. Newport (3.15)

Cardiff v. Newport (3.15)

Racing

Grand Canyon's task made easier

By Michael Phillips

A first class programme awaits those who make the journey to Ascot today. On parade will be a number of horses who could be much in the limelight at Cheltenham in March, notably Gold Cup probabilities, Grand Canyon and the champion hurdler, Paddy Best.



Grand Canyon, ridden by Ron Barry, should be hard to beat this afternoon.

no one could expect him to be a razor sharp. In the circumstances he could get beaten. But by whom? Secretariat looked good when he won the Kentucky Derby but he has disappointed me since then. Any more, he would certainly wash away his chances.

Prayakra's trainer, Fred Winter, will have plenty on his mind this afternoon. He had stuck to his guns and decided to give the 1978 Gold Cup winner, Midnight Court, another race in the Long Walk Hurdle in the hope that he would show more form than he did at Epsom last month.

Western Rose, who also fell in his last race, was no match for Venture to Cognac at Cheltenham last April and I can see no reason why it should be a different story this time.

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Ascot programme

[Television (BBC 1): 12.50, 1.25, 1.55 and 2.30 races]

12.50 LONG WALK HURDLE (2,863 3/4m)

1. 00-00-00 Captain's Lad (Mrs E. Mitchell, 7-11.4)

2. 00-00-00 King of the Hill (Mrs E. Mitchell, 7-11.4)

3. 00-00-00 Captain's Lad (Mrs E. Mitchell, 7-11.4)

Nottingham programme

[Television (BBC 1): 1.30, 2.0, 2.30 and 3.0 races]

1.0 OUZO CHASE (Novices: 1,132 2m)

1. 00-00-00 Captain's Lad (Mrs E. Mitchell, 7-11.4)

2. 00-00-00 King of the Hill (Mrs E. Mitchell, 7-11.4)

3. 00-00-00 Captain's Lad (Mrs E. Mitchell, 7-11.4)

Devon and Exeter

12.30 (12.30) CHUDLEIGH HURDLE

1. 00-00-00 Captain's Lad (Mrs E. Mitchell, 7-11.4)

2. 00-00-00 King of the Hill (Mrs E. Mitchell, 7-11.4)

3. 00-00-00 Captain's Lad (Mrs E. Mitchell, 7-11.4)

Television highlights

Table with 2 columns: Fixture, Result.

Cardiff v. Newport (3.15)

Cardiff v. Newport (3.15)

Cardiff v. Newport (3.15)

Chance for O'Neill to fulfil his ambition

By Michael Seely

John O'Neill, who needs only two more winners to become the first man to reach 50 winners this season, can achieve that ambition at Catterick Bridge this afternoon. In fact the champion jockey can land a treble by winning the Ladbrokes Bet, the Silver Shadow, the R.L. and Hector Christie Memorial Trophy on Crofton Hall and the first division of the 12.15 Maiden Hurdle on Bump who was strongly fancied to succeed at the first time of asking.

Silver Shadow must be a confident selection to win his race. After taking a handicap under 12.5 at Ascot in November, the five-year-old was sent down to Sandown Park for the Macra Bookmakers Hurdle. Starting joint favourite at 7 to 2, he was beaten by Silver Shadow put in a strong run over the last two flights but never looked like carrying the runaway winner, Golden Wonder.

There was no disgrace in that defeat. In the first place, Silver Shadow was carrying a penalty for his 12.5 handicap. The ground was not soft enough for the grey mare; and thirdly, she had caught a tatar in Golden Wonder, who had been specially prepared to land a gamble in this valuable race. Silver Shadow means nothing of that quality today.

Crofton Hall should find that Don't Forget and Crown Court are his chief opponents in the three-mile steeplechase. He has been beaten by both of them at Catterick Bridge. At Sandown Park, Crofton Hall found his form at the last Ascot meeting when conceding over 25 to Oakley Cross, who had won his last two races.

Don't Forget is a progressive runner. He has been beaten by a sequence of four victories for Arthur Stephenson at the beginning of the season. He has been beaten by a sequence of four victories for Arthur Stephenson at the beginning of the season. He has been beaten by a sequence of four victories for Arthur Stephenson at the beginning of the season.

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Television highlights

Table with 2 columns: Fixture, Result.

Cardiff v. Newport (3.15)

Cardiff v. Newport (3.15)

Cardiff v. Newport (3.15)

Rugby Union

Table with 2 columns: Fixture, Result.

Welsh Cup (Second round)

Cardiff v. Newport (3.15)

Cardiff v. Newport (3.15)

Cardiff v. Newport (3.15)

Club matches

Table with 2 columns: Fixture, Result.

Cardiff v. Newport (3.15)

Cardiff v. Newport (3.15)

Cardiff v. Newport (3.15)

Television highlights

Table with 2 columns: Fixture, Result.

Cardiff v. Newport (3.15)

Cardiff v. Newport (3.15)

Cardiff v. Newport (3.15)

Catterick Bridge programme

[Television (BBC 1): 1.45, 2.15 and 2.45 races]

12.15 LEADS HURDLE (Div I: Maidens: 3-y-o: 5610 2m)

1. 00-00-00 Captain's Lad (Mrs E. Mitchell, 7-11.4)

2. 00-00-00 King of the Hill (Mrs E. Mitchell, 7-11.4)

3. 00-00-00 Captain's Lad (Mrs E. Mitchell, 7-11.4)

Catterick Bridge selections

By Michael Seely

12.15 Maiden Hurdle: 1.45 Crofton Hall, 2.15 Silver Shadow, 2.45 Ladbrokes Bet.

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Ascot selections

By Michael Seely

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Nottingham selections

By Michael Seely

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**Personal
investment and
finance,
pages 18 and 19**

- **Stock markets**
FT Ind 431.0 up 9.5
FT Glts 65.4 up 0.50
- **Sterling**
\$2.1995 down 55 points
Index 69.8 (the same)
- **Dollar**
Index 85.8 up 0.5
- **Gold**
\$457.00 an ounce down \$4
- **3-month money**
Inter-bank 16½ to 16
Euro \$ 14 to 14 13/16

US inflation worsening despite cut in prime rate

cularly marked rise in exports of machinery and road vehicles in November.

Another special factor which helped the trade figures was an improvement in the oil balance. There was a deficit of £12m on the oil account in November, compared with a surplus of £10m in the figure of £85m.

-Imports dropped by £122m last month from their highest October level. However, the consistently inexorable rise in British imports of vehicles continued.

Monthly trade figures are erratic, and a better guide to trends can be obtained from a three-monthly comparison. On this basis, the improvement disappears. The visible trade balance deteriorated from a deficit of £495m between June and August to one of £530m in the three months to November.

Although the volume of exports rose sharply in November, it showed no change on a three-monthly basis. If trade in erratic items such as ships, is excluded then export volumes dropped by 1 per cent between the periods June-August and September-November.

Imports were little changed in the same terms on a three-monthly comparison if trade in erratic items is excluded. They showed a slight fall of 1 per

cent if these goods are included. The high October figure for imports probably represented stockbuilding during the month by importers preparing for Christmas and for the extra consumer demand as tax rebates are fed into pay packets.

In the last three months imports of finished manufactured goods excluding food, textiles and fuel rose a little. Overall import volumes are still well above their levels of a year ago, although they have not risen much in recent months. Many forecasters expect the economic slowdown in Britain next year to damp down import growth.

British exporters are still feeling the effects of the slowdown in Iranian and Nigerian demand. Exports to Iran averaged £25m a month between September and November. This compares with a monthly average during 1978 of £18m.

Trade has been disrupted since the revolution in Iran, and the figures do not reveal any possible slowing of British exports since the seizing of Iranian hostages in Iran last month. British exports to Nigeria are now running at £68m a month, compared with £194m a month last year.

Tables, page 20

From Frank Vogl
US Economics Correspondent
Washington, Dec 14

Major United States banks today cut 1 per cent from their prime lending rates. Despite this, a top White House official said that America's inflation problem is not solved.

Mr Robert Russell, director of the President's council on wage and price stability, said that sharp rises in wages and industrial prices are likely in the next few months and it is far harder to reduce inflation.

Mr Russell told the National Economists' Club that he was making this gloomy prediction because the decision to cut falling interest rates and the development of a recession in 1980 would have a moderating effect on some inflationary pressures.

He said there was little the White House could do in the short-term. "We just cannot hope to cut inflation substantially by next November's election," he said.

The inflation picture is made no clearer by interest rate trends. The main banks, led by Citibank and the First National Bank of Chicago, cut their prime rates by 15 per cent from 15 1/2 per cent, but the markets some experts believe rates are going to head upwards again soon.

Evidence of recession is falling

By Our Economics Staff

Japan has given way to pressure from the Americans to cut back its oil purchases from Iran. Yesterday a spokesman for the Japanese Ministry of International Trade and Industry said Japan would now limit its Iranian oil buys to the level ruling before the seizing of United States hostages in Tehran on November 4.

In another piece of good news for the Americans, Sheikh Yamani, the Saudi Arabian oil minister, confirmed yesterday that his country would maintain the present level of oil production at least for the time being. Americans have been putting strong pressure on Saudi Arabia to keep up its oil output, at present 9.5 million barrels a day.

Mr. William Miller, the United States Treasury Secretary, said after his Middle East trip late last month that he expected the Saudis to hold to the present production levels for at least part of next year.

The oil kingdom has wanted to raise its daily output, partly for technical reasons and partly because it does not need the extra revenue. There has also been pressure on Saudi Arabia from more militant Opec nations to reduce production.

Iran has been producing less

oil since its willingness to share up the extra oil from Iran made available by the American decision to cut off its purchases of Iranian oil. Mr. Cyrus Vance, the United States Secretary of State, censured a paper earlier this week for urging support to the Iranians in their money war against the United States.

The Japanese are heavily dependent on imported oil, and are keen stock players. However, they fear that if they do not import to mend links with America than to continue their close contacts with Iran.

The decision to cut back oil purchases is part of a package of measures concerning economic relations between Japan and Iran. This could include a call to Japanese banks to refrain from extending fresh credits to Iran. So far, the Japanese attitude towards Iran has been "business as usual".

Japan imported 620,000 barrels of oil a day from Iran before the United States hostages were taken on November 4. About 460,000 came through direct deals.

Japanese companies have been accused of buying up 20 million tons of Iranian crude on the spot market at double the long term contract prices. Tokyo has now forced trading companies to sell some of this back at a loss.

The Japanese foreign minis-

try has said that Japanese companies were forced to buy high priced oil on the spot market, recently for fear that if they did not, Iran would take a harsher line in negotiating long-term direct contracts for 1980.

The Presidential freeze on Iranian oil in United States banks spilled over into American money markets yesterday. The Federal Reserve will no longer deal in "banker's acceptances" associated with Iranian goods, according to the Federal Reserve Bank of New York yesterday. This will hit Iran's trade with the United States. Bankers' acceptances are used to finance trade.

A spokesman for the Fed said that the move was prompted by "legal problems" because the United States freeze. However, it seems that it is not part of a new effort to step up economic pressure on Iran.

America is known to have been contemplating trade embargoes on Iran if the hostages are not released. However, European countries, including West Germany and Britain are thought to be unhappy about being dragged into an economic war. Both countries probably tried to make this clear to Mr. Vance on his European tour this week, while emphasizing their commitment to the freeing of

St Piran directors win day after barrage of shareholder queries

By Michael Prest said nothing had happened since the accounts were drawn up to cause the auditor to withdraw their qualifications.

A shareholder, Mr James Judge, asked detailed questions about the accounts and their audit with Fairmont State. Further questions on the same subject

Washington, Dec 14

President Carter may soon propose a new tax on petroleum in order to achieve a sharp reduction in oil imports. The tax could be as much as 50 cents a barrel, or \$1.25 a gallon, around one dollar a gallon.

President Carter told a group of newspaper editors that the

Shareholders were concerned to establish certain facts arising from qualifications to the 1979 accounts by the auditors, Ernst & Whinney. Among the qualifications were the shareholdings in the Far East, mainly involving Fairmont State, a Thai company, and Mid-East Minerals, an Australian company.

Behind these immediate questions lay the older doubt in shareholders' minds about the qualifications on the accounts exercised by Mr James Fairmont, the financier who is chairman of Gasco Investments, a Hongkong company which holds nearly 30 per cent of St Piran. Mr M. R. Scone, managing director of Gasco, was appointed to the St Piran board in June.

Persistent questions from shareholders elicited some information new to them. Although St Piran has in the last week issued a circular in answer to the allegations made by the auditors, Mr Scone, representing Ernst & Whinney,

showed of hands by the 50 shareholders who attended the meeting in the Connaught Rooms, in London.

Shareholders were particularly anxious to establish whether Fairmont was a subsidiary or an associate company of St Piran.

A further round of questions was asked about dealings in Australia. Directors were asked to explain the £1m interest deposited nearly £1m interest free with an Australian investment company called Daymin. They also queried the extent of St Piran's shareholding in the Mid-East.

Although many shareholders professed themselves dissatisfied with the accounts, the presence of a proxy representing Gasco Investments assured the directors of an overwhelming majority. It was clear that had they held the power shareholders present would have made a few more changes to the composition of the board, only two members of which are resident in the United Kingdom.

They did, however, vote to retain the auditors. As shareholders dispersed there was talk of organizing an investigation of their own, or of demanding a report from the Department of Trade.

Mr Scone said that the fuel shortages in 1980 because of output cuts by oil exporting nations.

He said that because of rising world prices and the deteriorating production outlook, he was considering means to restrain consumption like rationing or a new tax on petrol. White House sources said the new tax was much more likely.

Senior officials at the Department of Energy are apparently pressing the White House for a decision in favour of a 50 cent petrol tax, according to informed sources.

The Office of Management and Budget is believed to be studying this and considering a cut in social security taxes.

US Secretary of State Alexander Haig said that the United States would not tell the National Economic Club today that a 50 cent tax on petrol could reduce demand in 1980 by 500,000 to 600,000 barrels of oil a day, and that in 1981 it could be as much as two million barrels a day.

Dr Klein said that if the petrol tax was offset by cuts in social security taxes, which he considered likely, the net effect of the petrol tax on consumer prices was likely to be slight.

50 pc tax on American petrol likely

President Carter may soon announce new oil prices in order to achieve a sharp reduction in oil imports. The tax could be as much as 50 cents on a gallon. Current prices are around one dollar a gallon.

President Carter told his chief of news, editor, that the new oil prices might face increasing fuel shortages in 1980 because of output cuts by oil exporting nations.

He said that because of rising world prices and the deteriorating situation in the Persian Gulf, he was considering measures to restrain consumption like rationing or a new tax on petrol. White House sources said the new taxes would be much more likely.

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Professor Lawrence Klein of the University of Pennsylvania told the National Economic Council that a 30 cent tax in 1980 could reduce demand for oil by 30 percent.

In 1981 this could save, and that would mean a barrel a day.

Dr. Klein said that the petrol tax was offset by cuts in social security taxes, which he considered likely, the net effect of the petrol tax on consumer prices was likely to be minor.

Prices acceleration likely to push inflation rate to 20 pc next year

By David Blake

Inflation edged up again in November, with the retail price index rising by 0.9 per cent to stand at 237.7. This was 17.4 per cent higher than in the same month last year, confirming the Government's forecast, at the time of the Budget, that the annual rate of inflation in the last quarter of this year was likely to be around 17 per cent.

But figures showing the underlying rate of inflation running at an annual pace of 12.5 per cent suggest the Government's hope that the end of the year will see the peak of inflation looks certain to be disappointed.

Prices will continue to accelerate until the spring. Indeed, the Government may get no comfort on the inflation front until well into next summer, when the increase caused by the decision to increase value added tax to 15 per cent finally work their way out of the system.

There may have been some signs that manufacturers have already felt forced to do this on the whole.

UK RETAIL PRICES

percentage change of annual rate

25
20
15
10
5
0

CHANGE OVER 1 YEAR EARLIER

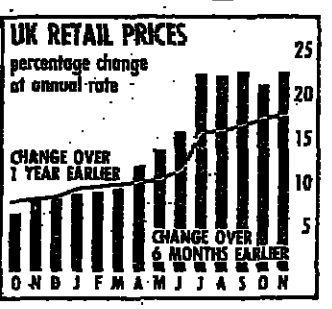
CHANGE OVER 6 MONTHS EARLIER

O N D J F M A M J J A S O N

prices in the pipeline, including a very sharp rise in mortgage costs as the building societies put up their charges to borrowers. Rail fares and other charges are also expected to go up in the new year, adding to the upward pressure which has already come from sharp increases in electricity bills. The key question in determining just how high inflation goes in the next few months may be the extent to which the Government agrees to let the High Street price retailers hold down prices, even at the expense of trimming their profits.

Most forecasts suggest that, apart from the technical point about the removal of the wage and price pressures, the inflation rate will then tend to be downwards.

Unemployment is expected to rise quite sharply, which could lead to lower pay settlements, adding the pressure on retailers' margins. It will certainly continue to be against the odds that there will be a substantial inflation in the system from the pay agreements which are being conducted during the current round, and the reduction in the inflation



Monopolies board to check on ready-mixed concrete

John Huxley
The Monopolies and Mergers
Commission has been asked to
examine the supply of ready-
mixed concrete in the United
Kingdom.

Mr Gordon Borrie, the
Director general at the Offices
of Fair Trading, has requested
an investigation at a time when
the price of concrete is still rising
erratically, and the possibility
of price-fixing arrangements
between companies in the
£275m-a-year industry.

Since 1977, when allegations
were made about price "ring-
ing" in the Thames Valley, 215
companies have been taken
to court, and 100 have been
brought to light. These
disclose a complex web of price-
fixing and market sharing
arrangements covering the
whole of the United Kingdom.

Mr Gordon Borrie has been taken
through the Restrictive Prac-
tices Court against some of the
companies named in agree-
ments, and action against
others is pending.

The Office of Fair Trading
has been examining the
competition since the ending
of the various price-fixing
agreements two years ago is
not appropriate.

It is thought that there has
been increasing concentration

production capacity in recent years, while many of the larger companies have extended their interests in raw materials abroad.

Ready-Mixed concrete (UK), the largest producer, has an estimated 35 per cent of the market, while a further 40 per cent is shared by another seven companies.

The British Ready-Mixed Concrete Association had 15 members accounting for 96 per cent of production. These figures suggest that there is a complex monopoly, as reflected in the Fair Trading Act, which forbids any persons or companies who together supply, or are supplied with, at least one-quarter of the goods or services of a particular description in the United Kingdom, any part of the United Kingdom, so conduct their affairs, whether by agreement or otherwise, as to prevent, restrict or distort competition in connexion with that supply.

The commission, which has been asked to report within 18 months, will investigate whether a monopoly exists and if so, whether it is contrary to the public interest.

Unions pressing for steel cuts intervention

The Government will be asked to intervene in British steel. Corporation's plant closure programme when union leaders meet Sir Keith Joseph, secretary of State for Industry this morning.

Mr. Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC and Mr. William Sims, general secretary of the Iron and Steel Trades Federation, which is threatening to call a national strike on August 2 in support of its demands, will discuss the corporation's crisis measures with Sir Keith, at a meeting at the Industry Department.

Sir Keith has reaffirmed that the corporation's management to take whatever action it deems necessary to ensure the corporation meets its financial targets. The possibility of the Government agreeing any relaxation of the corporation's financial targets, and the possibility of Mr Sims nor Mr Murray expects any major change in the Government's policy.

The union side will express its abhorrence of steel communities.

where it is planned to reduce horsepower by 53,000, and the impact those redundancies will have on thousands of other workers, particularly those in the coal industry.

The corporation wrote to its major customers and trade associations last night urging them to take deliveries of steel which may be ordered as soon as possible.

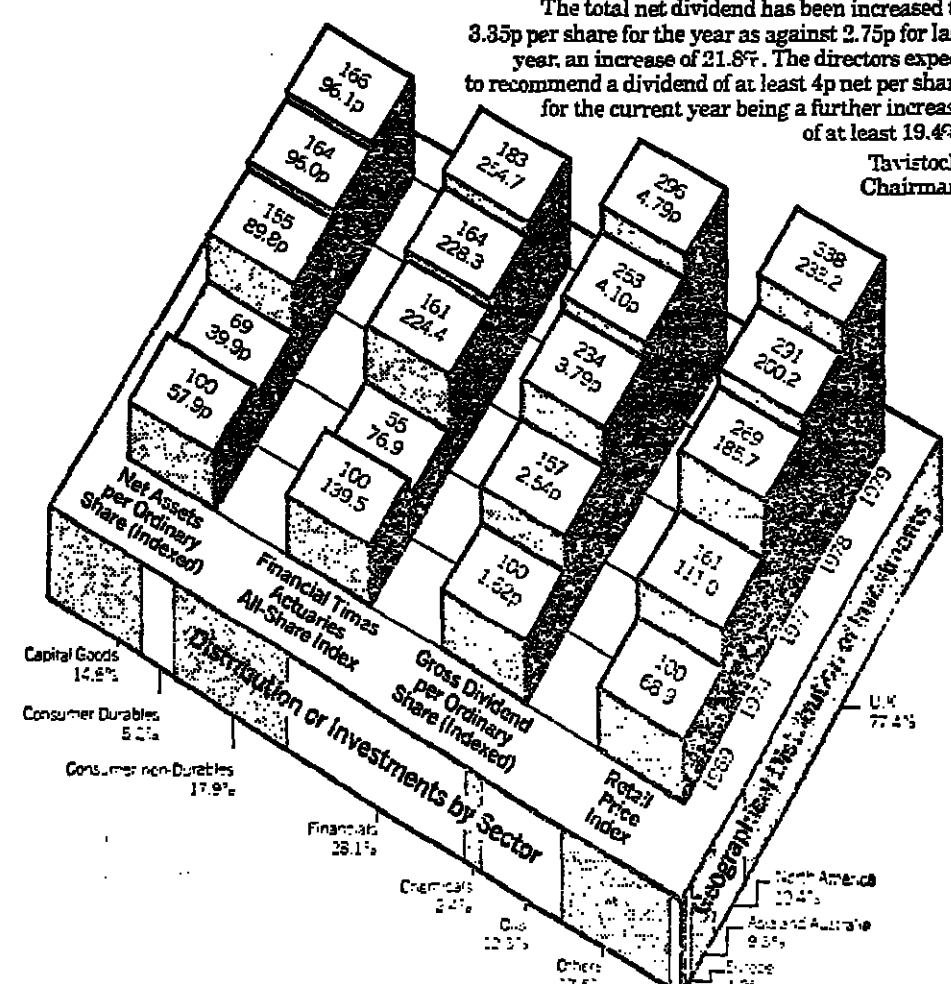
Mr Gordon Sambrook, BSC's managing director (commercial), said that many customers had placed orders some weeks ago and they should be secure in delivery as soon as possible in the event of a strike.


Although consuming industries ran down their stocks of steel after the steep increase in bank lending rates, stocks of steel held by the stockholding companies were estimated about 3 weeks of normal consumption.

The damage already done to BSC's sales prospects in the first three months of next year is considerable, since many customers have started out on a no-strike policy against the possibility of strike action by placing orders with foreign steel makers and steel makers to cover short-term requirements.

CEDAR Investment Trust Limited

Total Assets at 30th September 1979: £33.8 million.



 **A member of the Touche, Remnant Management Group**
Total funds under group management exceed £800 million.
Copies of the Report and Accounts can be obtained from Cedar Investment Trust

THE POUND

Bank buys	Bank sells	Bank buys	Bank sells
Niig 5	2.01	1.55	
La Sch	29.86	27.60	
La Sch	62.59	62.59	
La Sch	1.59	2.52	
La Sch	12.80	11.75	
La Sch	8.53	8.53	
La Sch	8.53	8.85	
La Sch	9.01	3.79	
La Sch	9.01	91.00	
La Sch	17.00	17.00	
La Sch	1856.00	1765.00	
La Sch	552.00	530.00	
La Sch	4.41	4.13	

Bank buys	Bank sells
Norway Kr	11.35
Portugal Esc	113.00
Spain Ptas	151.50
Spain Ptas	151.50
Sweden Kr	9.52
Switzerland Fr	2.25
USA \$	2.25
Yugoslavia Dnr	47.50

Notes for small denomination bank notes only as stipulated previously by the bank.

Bank of Montreal Ltd. 1970
 Montreal, Quebec
 and other foreign branches
 business.

PRICE CHANGES

S					
Hedge	13p to 182p		Hastmore Est	12p to 274p	
& Hallish	11p to 485p		Leetall Toynebee	4p to 20p	
	1p to 324p		ICL	15p to 478p	
and Dought	2p to 102p		Vongtal C'pts	2p to 20p	
erson 'A	13p to 655p		Zambis Copper	3p to 29p	
S					
	2p to 4p		Marling and	2p to 22p	
H. H.	13p to 32p		Sala Viscosa	5p to 34p	
	15p to 634p		S. A. Lapid	7p to 353p	
			S. A. Lapid	7p to 353p	
			S. A. Lapid	7p to 353p	

Back to the days of steamships

The coal-burning cargo ship, steamed by oil-burners in the 1930s, could make a comeback because of rapidly rising oil prices, Mr. Martin. Stopford, president of corporate planning firm, British Shipbuilders, declared yesterday.

But the stoker who kept the ships going by the sweat of his brow is unlikely to return to his job; the new coal-fired ships would have no need for stoking and the necessary equipment. Mr. Stopford told the *Economist's* Shipping section in a conference on bulk-carriers in London. Oil had replaced coal because of its superior burning efficiency and its cost—oil is as well as its cost—an 8,000-ton freighter would carry 20,000 tons of coal, but only 250

of oil if diesel-propelled. But the economics of coal-burning ships suggests that the pendulum is now swinging the other way, and that coal steamships should definitely be taken seriously," Mr. Stopford said.

Taking the delivered cost of oil in the United States as the guide, a bulk-carrier using 60,000 tons of oil or 120 tons of coal would be cheaper to run with oil in the early 1970s, but 40 per cent cheaper with coal at today's prices.

Smaller availability of which would be a result of the oil-burners would probably be limited initially on certain well-established routes.

Another questionmark was

er the future price of coal, which some believed would fall, the price of oil. Others took the view that the price would be determined more by competition between coal producers and the fact that no new oil-fired power stations were being commissioned in Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development countries spoke for itself.

Certainly for the next 10 years, coal prices looked like falling more slowly than oil; and the prospect now was that the coal price would be substantially lower than the oil price, a saving for the coal and steel industry and a secure cost profile for a vessel's life".

Michael Bailey

PERSONAL INVESTMENT AND FINANCE

International bonds

Currency choice widens the options

With the lifting of exchange control regulations in October, investors have a not-so-fond farewell to the volatile dollar premium. But those investing abroad should not underestimate the risk they are still taking when it comes to fluctuating exchange rates. Just how much they are exposed to these movements, which can be quite sharp, depends on how the money is invested abroad.

Single premium bonds linked to a life company's international fund is one way an investor can get a stake in overseas markets. There are now around 30 such funds from which to choose, the majority investing in a wide variety of countries.

Just where the money is invested varies from fund to fund. Not surprisingly, the American market, which accounts for some 55 per cent of world stock market capitalization, often makes up a good chunk of the fund's portfolio.

But both the M & G and Trident international bond funds have a comparatively low exposure to Wall Street coupled with a higher than average investment in countries in the Pacific Basin.

Chief fund managers also pursue this policy. Its international unit trust, which provides the underlying single premium bond link, is 70 per cent invested in the Pacific Basin with the remainder in both American and United Kingdom special situation shares.

Two funds with an "international" banner—Merchant Investors and Solam—are totally invested in Wall Street—although the managers do not intend that this will always be the case.

If this is what you want you can also consider the Hambro American Fund or the United States Invested Funds run by Cannon and Trident Life at present standing at \$5.2m and \$2.7m respectively. Alternatively some groups—such as

M & G and Save & Prosper—offer their unit trusts invested in specific areas as a single premium bond link.

Good performance on these international funds hangs on being in the right market at the right time. But currency fluctuations can also leave their mark here.

Since October, fund managers have been able to invest directly in overseas markets by buying foreign currencies rather than using the now defunct dollar premium, or loan facility route. Acting on this new found freedom Barclays, M & G and Schroder have wound up their loan facilities in favour of investing totally through the currency.

Among the smaller funds, Crown Life, Guardian Royal Exchange and Manufacturers Life also favour this route.

Investors in these funds therefore take the double risk of investing not only in the stock market of a particular country but also in its currency—which does not always move in the same direction. Although most fund managers will keep their options open to invest through loans if currencies start to move rapidly and sterling weakens.

For those of a nervous disposition there is a certain attraction in funds investing in loans in that the risk of currency fluctuations is reduced. As a currency hedge the managers borrow, rather than buy, the appropriate currency to fund the investments against collateral held in sterling.

Solar Life, for example, has retained its loan facilities accounting for some 50 per cent of the fund, while Legal & General and Vanbrugh have been running down their loans. Earlier this year both were virtually fully invested through loans which now account for some 30 per cent and 50 per cent of the fund respectively.

Trident, also previously invested through loans, has wound up the expensive ones, while Sun Alliance is now investing

its new money directly.

These companies have no hard and fast rules as to how they will invest their funds in the future. This very much depends on their views at any time on a particular currency vis-à-vis sterling.

Conversely, the policy at Merchant Investors, says managing director Edward Fairman, is to reduce the exchange rate risk as much as possible. To this end it therefore intends to carry on investing entirely through loan facilities.

At present, investment managers are still digesting the possibilities opened to them following the abolition of exchange control regulations. They now have the opportunity, if not the expertise, to invest both in stock markets and currency markets.

For example, £1,000 destined for Wall Street can be split so that the dollar equivalent of £500 is invested directly in the market. The remainder gives collateral against a dollar loan also invested in the United States. But this collateral does not necessarily have to be held in sterling—a short-term fixed interest security in Deutschmarks could provide a better return.

Such a proposition brings a variety of reactions from fund managers. While Vanbrugh it "seems likely" it will invest part of its money in this way, some fund managers dismiss it as out of hand on the basis that it is too risky and not what the investors want. Other fund managers are still considering the possibilities while some frankly admit that at the moment they have no expertise but it is certainly a future possibility.

In any event investors should check the policy of the fund managers so that he knows exactly what sort of risk he is taking in international investment.

Sally Michael

LARGER INTERNATIONAL BOND FUNDS

Fund	Size	Minimum investment	UK	Recent geographical breakdown of fund					
				US	East	Europe	Others	Liquidity	
Albany Int Managed	£1.5m	£250	22	18	19	23	11	10	
Barclays International	£5m	£500	14	57	19	8	2	5	
Legal & General International	£1.5m	£1,000	—	53	13	18	—	16	
M & G International	£10m	£250	29†	27	29	6	3	6	
Merchant Investors International Equity	£1.5m	£500	—	95	—	—	—	—	
Property Growth International	£1.7m	£1,000	—	52	19	—	—	29	
Schroder Overseas	£2.1m	£1,000	—	72	20	3	3	2	
Solar International	£1.4m	£1,000	—	83	5	—	—	11	
Sun Alliance International	£2.0m	£1,000	2	63	1	20	—	5	
Vanbrugh International	£1.5m	£1,000	—	61	7	23	—	9	

* Including Australia. † Includes UK overseas earning shares. ** Gold shares.

The stock market began its traditional run-up to Christmas this week as both gilts and equities were helped along the way by bullish investors.

After a technical dip at the end of the last account some genuine buying got the week off to a good start and jobbers, while little stock on their books, had no alternative but to get out their blue pencils and mark stocks higher.

Helped along by a rising bullion price which peaked at \$461 on Thursday gold shares moved sharply forward.

Stocks with Rhodesian interests, including Falcon Mines and Zambia Copper also kept ahead on the back of the settlement.

A report that more diamonds had been found at the Ashton Prospect in Australia put some sparkle into Ashton Mining, RTZ, and Tanganyika Concessions, while the London-based

Investor's week

Market

begins its

run-up to

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HOFF of HEYBRIDGE HEATH

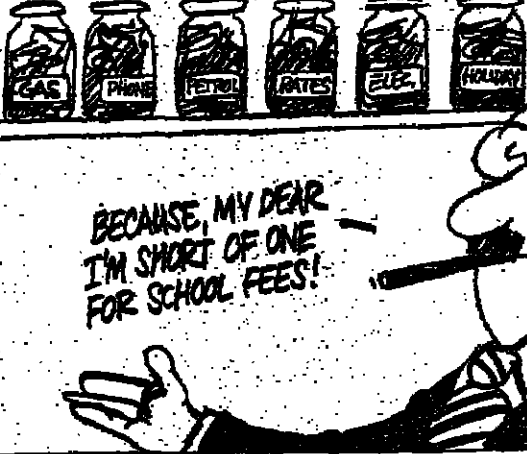
I SEE THE MARMALADE'S FINISHED. HAVE MRS EM. SAVE THE JAR



WHAT ON EARTH DO YOU NEED A JAR FOR?



BECAUSE MY DEAR I'M SHORT OF ONE FOR SCHOOL FEES!



Grouse

For both motor and house-

hold insurances significant

increases in premiums are

being required by insurers at

most renewals. It would

appear, however, that some

insurers and brokers delib-

erately hold back the issue

of renewal invitations so

that, by the time they arrive,

there is virtually no time to

obtain a quotation from

another insurer—especially

if a survey of the locks, bolts

and other security devices in

the house would be neces-

sary before an insurer could

quote a firm premium.

The fair course to adopt

(and insurers are always

stressing the need for the

utmost good faith in insur-

ance contracts) would be to

make sure that policy-

holders receive their renewal

invitations in time for them

to "shop around" before

deciding whether to renew.

Insurers whose premiums

are competitive would have

little to fear: policy-holders

would discover for them-

selves that their insurers

would cost even more if they

were to move elsewhere.

More information, also,

could be given in renewal

notices, particularly those for

household insurances. Many

householders now have their

policies "index-linked",

whereby the sum insured is

updated each month in line

with a suitable index. Each

year the premium is calcu-

lated on the updated value.

Clearly, when insurance is

on that basis, each annual

premium will be higher than

the last. A number of in-

surers have, however, also

increased the rate of pre-

mium applied.

More information could be

given about that, so that a

householder could see if the

same rate as before had been

applied

Sally Michael

Christmas gifts

Money is the ideal last-minute present

Are you still chasing around for

last-minute gifts for the children

—and, indeed, everyone else?

In desperation one can always

fall back upon that most useful

commodity—money.

In the past I have always used

Marks and Spencer clothes as

the most original and accept-

able of cash vouchers, on the

principle that if the recipients

do not like my bought-in taste

they can always exchange the

goods for money at their

nearest branch.

This year I am not even giv-

ing people the option of cash or

clothes; it is cash or nothing.

However, one is not entirely re-

stricted to nice, new, crisp notes

—acceptable as these always

are. Most of the savings insti-

tutions can offer variations

which will serve well as stock-

ing fillers.

Building societies, which

normally face a run on their

funds during December, try to

redress the balance encourag-

ing money back in again as

Christmas presents, particularly

for children. Abbey National's

gift cheques can be for as

little as £1 and come in an

attractive Christmas card

folder.

Alternatively, you can set the

child off on the savings habit

by opening a Leicester Money

Book plan, also for as little as

£1. The advantage—or, it is

drawback—of this plan is that

special arrangements permit

children over the age of seven

to withdraw up to £25 without

parental let or hindrance.

Chelsea Building Society has

a "Christmas Gift Accounts

for Children" scheme, which

also, come in wrapped, and

accompanied by a greetings

card. That is for modest gifts.

If you wish to invest £100 it

goes in the premium share

account and Chelsea adds

another £1 to get the gift off

to a good start.

The Woolwich goes in for gift

vouchers, from £1 to £100

and vouchers invested with

30 days will have interest

credited from the day after the

voucher was issued.

Free money boxes are avail-

able from Lloyds Bank and the

Midland which also sells a

plastic pig or foal money

box from Williams and

Glynns, or you can have a blu-

e globe from National Wes-

minster for 6p. After that

add some shiny coins

Margaret Stone

Credit

It's not the time to be living on tick

Only those with a strong consti-

tution—who are fairly well

perpetrated for funds—will not

be put off by the sky-high cost

of credit nowadays. Borrowing

has never been more expensive,

with overdrafts and personal

loans, the cheapest and most

convenient forms of credit, now

costing well over 20 per cent.

There could be worse to

come. Interest rates may not go

up again (although there are

still some jeremiahs in the City

suggesting they could), but the

credit squeeze looks as though

it will become tighter after

Christmas as the availability of

money gets scarcer. And far

from being a temporary mea-

sure to get the country off a

sticky economic racket, as was

hoped last month, the credit

squeeze now seems that we will

be living with interest rates at

roughly these levels at least

until after the 1980 budget.

This week's figure from the

banking system brought little

comfort, either. The were

nowhere near as bad as the last

year which forced the Govern-

ment to raise its minimum lend-

ing rate from 14 to 17 per cent,

but they did all the same show

that we were still a nation of

heavy borrowers.

True, the figures took in

only a few days of the higher

interest rates and companies,

strapped for cash, are going to

their bankers in droves. But the

pace of personal borrowing is

much too brisk for the Govern-

ment's liking.

All this lending would, of

course, normally be good news

for the banks: not now though,

because the level is closely cir-

cumscribed by Bank of Eng-

land controls. For most of this

year the big high street banks

have had to pay only small

fines for overstepping the

mark, but they are now wor-

ried about moving further into

the penalty zone which would

mean a further increase in their

lending rates.

Hence the reminders from

bank head offices to branch

managers to rein back their

lending—requests that tend to

hit the personal customer

EDITED BY MARGARET STONE

FINANCIAL NEWS

B Fertleman: return to profit is nearer

By Our Financial Staff

South London furniture makers B. Fertleman & Sons appears to have stemmed the tide of losses during the first six months to September 30, 1979. Even so, the first-half loss is £209,000 against £145,000 in the same period last year. But this is considerably better than the preceding six months when the company reported losses of £525,000.

The Camberwell company managed a small gain in turnover during the period under review, ahead by £20,000 but it was not enough to get it back into the black.

Since the company made losses in 1978 of more than £500,000 the board has taken steps to remedy the situation. The Chairman, Mr John Swanborough, says that during the first six months of the current year the group has improved performance in lines with the corporate plan.

Changes have taken place within the group, some of which have resulted in down-turning costs. These, together with a more critical approach to certain of Fertleman's accounting policies, have resulted in exceptional charges totalling £29,553.

He says the underlying performance of the group is encouraging and most of the primary objectives are being achieved.



Mr John Swanborough, chairman of B. Fertleman.

Mr Swanborough strikes an optimistic note for the current half by saying that the group made a profit in September and October and the board expects to show a surplus by the end of the present six months. Fertleman's new range of furniture, introduced during the summer, has been well received, says the chairman, and the order books are strong. But he concludes it would be imprudent to forecast the year-end results.

Cawdow falls 66 pc

By Our Financial Staff

Increased interest rates were a major factor in reducing Cawdow Industrial Holdings' profits by £100,000 at the half. Sales rose by 12 per cent to £7m but pretax profits fell 66 per cent from £152,000 to £52,000 after interest charges of £154,000 in the six months to September 30, 1979. Interest payments amounted to £108,000 at the same time last year.

The group has decided to close three of its eight dye houses, making 220 people redundant, to reduce the high proportion of its capital employed in yarn dyeing. The move should lead to an improvement in profit potential and will release funds for investment in the group's timber and kitchen furniture operation, said the board.

Cawdow plans to acquire

three retail outlets in the home improvement and kitchen extension market and negotiations are near completion. This will help to reduce the group's dependence on its textile activities which have been hit by pressure on margins from cheap imports, as well as interest increases.

Both the kitchen furniture manufacturing and timber extension operations met the forecast sales and profit figures and progress in establishing the bedroom furniture manufacturing operation has been satisfactory, said Mr G. H. Lowe, chairman.

But although the current level of profitability is improving, recovery to acceptable profit levels cannot be achieved quickly, he stressed. In common with previous years there is no interim dividend payment.

Slip at G M Firth

By Rosemary Unsworth

Profits and sales showed a drop in the first half at G. M. Firth (Metals), the Bradford steel stockholders. Pretax profits slipped from £94,000 to £89,000 and sales fell by 22 per cent to £3.1m in the six months to September 30, 1979. Trading profit was almost halved to £106,000 during the period.

Chairman, Mr Gerrard Leadbeater, said that although there was no promise of growth in the present economic climate, the group was now able to concentrate "single mindedness" on furthering business following the outcome of the court case against the company. "The board much regrets that the

matter has for so long overshadowed the solid progress the company has made in recent years to strengthen its assets and liquidity."

Mr Leadbeater was fined £5,000 and given a one year suspended prison sentence on charges of conspiracy to defraud and issue forged documents in October. The charges involved a conspiracy to sell foreign steel as British steel and related to a subsidiary, G. M. Firth (Steelstock).

The interim dividend has been maintained at 2.14p gross and second half profits are likely to be the same as the first, compared with last year's full year results of £183,000 pretax.

Greene, King up 10 pc

Greene, King, the East Anglian brewer, maintained its growth pattern by pushing up profits by 10 per cent in the first half.

Pretax profits rose from £2.26m to £2.4m while turnover increased by 15 per cent to £24.6m in the six months to October 31, 1979. The share price rose by 10p to 373p on the announcement.

Mr R. J. King, chairman, said that although costs were rising rapidly the profits trend is not expected to show any significant change. Last year's profits reached a record £5m for the full year. Earlier this year Greene, King joined the reorganized Harp Consortium.

The interim dividend has been increased from 5.145p gross to 5.71p. An EGM will be held in February to approve a one-for-one scrip issue and to consider profit sharing scheme for employees.

The group is planning to spend £2m on its pubs during the current year. Another independent brewer, Harolds & Hanson, of Nottingham which is a close company, increased pretax profits by 21 per cent to £2.25m on a 9 per cent rise in turnover to £11.2m for the year ending September 25, 1979.

A final dividend of 9.7p gross has been proposed, making a total of 13.4p compared with last year's 11.6p gross.

Le Nickel optimistic

Le Havre, France, Dec 14.

STE Metallurgique le Nickel expects to show a loss of around 130m francs this year, with the second half roughly in balance after a first-half loss of 125m francs. The company director general Yves Rambaud said.

Questioned by journalists visiting the company's high purity nickel cathode plant at Sandouville near Le Havre, Rambaud said net turnover in 1979 should be between 1,600m and 1,700m francs.

In 1978 Le Nickel had a loss of 593.3m francs on turnover of 865m.

M. Rambaud said Le Nickel's sales in 1979 have been far below expectations, which began the year at low levels, rose to become remunerative in the second half.

The company's sales of all types of nickel products should be around 65,000 tonnes this year compared with 45,600 in 1978, he said.

The sales increase has permitted Le Nickel to sell substantial amounts from stocks but at the end of the year it will still have about 10,000 tonnes more than the desired level of three to four months supply, M. Rambaud said.

Marine Midland

Hongkong—The request to the United States Federal Reserve Board by Representative Mr Benjamin Rosenthal to withdraw approval for the takeover of Marine Midland Banks by Hongkong and Shanghai

International

Banking Corp is not likely to significantly delay the Federal authorities' decision on merger plans banking sources said here. Mr Rosenthal also asked the United States Comptroller of the Currency to delay any action on the National Charter application of Marine Midland until the Federal Reserve acts—Reuter.

News reconstruction

Adelaide—News Ltd, the company controlled by Mr Rupert Murdoch, said the Supreme Court of South Australia has approved the scheme of arrangement for reconstruction of the company's capital. The group will now be the News Corp Ltd, and shareholders will receive two ordinary 550-cent shares in the new company for each 50 cent News Ltd ordinary share. Preference shareholders are unaffected—Reuter.

Ashton Mining

Melbourne—Ashton joint venture partner, Ashton Mining NL, has raised 5A7.0m through an institutional placement of 3.5m fully paid 50-cent shares at 32.00 each. The cash raised will fund extra expenditure on the venture's Argyle prospect and meet all exploration and evaluation commitments for the next three to four years—Reuter.

GUINNESS

Preliminary Announcement of Profits and Dividend 52 weeks ended 29th September, 1979 and Issue of Ordinary Stock by Capitalisation of Reserves

	Notes	1979 £m	1978 £m
TURNOVER	1	687.2	642.7
PROFITS			
TRADING PROFIT	2		
Brewing		39.6	31.0
General Trading		7.9	8.4
Plastics and Materials Handling		5.3	4.6
Leisure		1.3	0.7
Confectionery		0.7	0.4
Central Management costs		54.8	45.1
Interest charges		1.9	1.4
Investment Income		52.9	43.7
Share of profits of associated companies		11.1	7.3
PROFIT BEFORE TAXATION		41.8	36.4
Taxation	5	0.8	0.9
PROFIT AFTER TAXATION		10.3	7.6
Minority interests		52.9	44.9
Extraordinary items	6	18.4	15.4
PROFIT ATTRIBUTABLE TO STOCKHOLDERS		34.5	29.5
DIVIDENDS		4.7	4.0
RETAINED PROFIT OF THE GROUP		29.8	25.5
EARNINGS PER 25p STOCK UNIT		CR1.9	2.3
PROPOSED FINAL DIVIDEND PER 25p STOCK UNIT	7	31.7	23.2
Proposed payment on 11th February, 1980		8.6	6.7
Gross equivalent		23.1	16.5
CAPITALISATION OF RESERVES			
At the Annual General Meeting the necessary Resolutions will be proposed to make an issue by way of Capitalisation of Reserves of one new share of 25p (to be converted on issue into an Ordinary Stock Unit of 25p) for each Ordinary Stock Unit of 25p registered in the stockholders' names at the close of business on 28th December, 1979.		34.2p	29.6p
PROPOSED FINAL DIVIDEND PER 25p STOCK UNIT		6.65p	5.2195p
Gross equivalent		9.50p	7.7903p

At the Annual General Meeting the necessary Resolutions will be proposed to make an issue by way of Capitalisation of Reserves of one new share of 25p (to be converted on issue into an Ordinary Stock Unit of 25p) for each Ordinary Stock Unit of 25p registered in the stockholders' names at the close of business on 28th December, 1979.

NOTES

1. The following table analyses turnover by sales to customers located in each territory—

	1979 £m	%	1978 £m	%
United Kingdom	329	48	321.3	50
Republic of Ireland	193.4	28	171.4	27
Overseas	154.4	23	150.0	23
	687.2	100	642.7	100

2. (a) The following table shows the trading profit of subsidiary companies resident in each territory before deducting Central Management costs. The figures for the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland include profits on exports from these territories and therefore should not be related to the turnover figures in Note 1.

	1979 £m	%	1978 £m	%
United Kingdom	39.6	36	15.7	35
Republic of Ireland	22.9	42	17.4	39
Overseas	12.1	22	12.0	26
	54.8	100	45.1	100

(b) Trading profit is after charging depreciation of £15.5m (£13.5m).

(c) In 1978 trading profits included profits arising from a 53rd week of trading, the major effect of which was an increase of 10.6m in trading profit.

(d) The 1979 trading profit of companies resident in the Republic of Ireland and Overseas would have been £2.1m greater if it had been translated at the exchange rates used in converting last year's profit.

3. (a) In 1978 the General Trading companies operating in the United Kingdom altered their year ends principally from 31st March to 31st August. The effect of this change was estimated to have increased last year's trading profit of the General Trading division by approximately £0.7m.

(b) The acquisition of new subsidiaries, principally in the General Trading division, is estimated to have increased the trading profit by £0.5m (£1.0m).

4. The attributable proportion of profits is included in respect of Harp Lager Ltd., Cantrell & Cochrane Group Ltd., Guinness (Nigeria) Ltd., Guinness Ghana Ltd. and other principal associated companies in the Brewing and General Trading divisions.

5. (a) The following table analyses the taxation charge—

	1979 £m	1978 £m
Holding and subsidiary companies		
Taxation arising in—		
United Kingdom	3.2	3.5
Republic of Ireland	6.4	3.9
Overseas	5.1	5.1
Associated companies—share of taxation	14.7	12.5
	3.7	2.9
	18.4	15.4

(b) U.K. Corporation Tax has been provided at the rate of 52% (52%).

(c) The taxation charge has been reduced by £1.9m (£3.9m) as a result of not providing in full for deferred taxation. However, advance corporation tax not immediately recoverable of £2.5m (£5.5m) has been written off.

6. Extraordinary items include a credit of £2.4m arising from the reconstruction of Harp Lager Ltd.

7. Proposed Final Dividend. The proposed final dividend together with the interim dividend already paid makes the gross equivalent of the total dividends for the year 14.00p (11.694p). This represents an increase of 19.7% compared with last year.

Inflation Accounting

The published accounts will include a Current Cost Statement of Profit which will show that the effect of applying the Interim Recommendation published by the Accounting Standards Committee in November, 1977 is to reduce this year's group profit before taxation by £16.5m (31%). This reduction arises from the deduction of £23.2m representing additional depreciation of £14.6m and the cost of sales adjustment of £8.6m and the addition of a gearing adjustment of £6.7m.

Summarised Group Balance Sheet at 29th September, 1979

	1979 £m	1978 £m
SOURCES OF CAPITAL		
Ordinary stockholders' equity	203.4	177.9
Outside shareholders' interests and pension provisions	15.9	16.4
Loans	78.6	58.6
	297.9	252.9
EMPLOYMENT OF CAPITAL		
Fixed Assets	183.7	165.9
Goodwill	20.0	16.4
Investments	31.5	34.3
Net Current Assets excluding liquid funds	67.2	54.8
Cash and Deposits	41.0	23.1
	343.4	294.5
Less bank overdrafts and short term loans	45.5	41.6
	297.9	252.9

Extracts from the Chairman's Statement

GENERAL Profit before tax was 18% better than last year. Trading profits in brewing have improved substantially, particularly in the Irish companies.

BREWING Sales of Guinness Stout in all the home markets increased last year. Overall sales of our beer brands worldwide were at record levels.

GENERAL TRADING There has been continued growth in most businesses, but the profits of both the Retail Division and Overseas Trading fell as a result of difficult trading conditions.

PLASTICS AND MATERIALS HANDLING Improved profits were recorded overall, in spite of the very sharp rise in prices of plastic raw materials.

LEISURE Our holiday centres and cruiser hire operations continued to develop satisfactorily.

CONFECTIONERY Volume and profits have improved on last year, but this progress was checked by the VAT increase in June.

FINANCIAL The interest charge increased by £3.8m. This was attributable equally to higher interest rates and greater borrowings.

ARTHUR GUINNESS SON AND COMPANY LIMITED

leading or a 25% increase

One month's figures yet some house prices look set to rise 25 per cent in 1979, according to the predictions of pundits who believed that the year of 22 per cent was speculable.

However, sticking my neck out this time, it really does seem unlikely that house prices in 1980 will show such a massive increase. The outlook could hardly be worse. Mortgage funds, both expensive and scarce, are likely to remain so until next year. Although there are those who predict a fall in interest rates, more likely it will not be until the budget that the break first appears. Whether mortgage interest rates will be down speedily then is her matter.

The Building Societies Association is again talking about a interest rate structure which would enable societies to let the mortgage rate stable, letting investment rates rise more rapidly. This is a good idea but can only be achieved by widening the gap between the mortgage and investment rates. I suspect that societies will find it difficult to do this without reducing the investment next year without altering mortgage rate too.

Those whose mortgages five years old or more may be paying 11 per cent of net income to the mortgage even after the rise in the mortgage interest rate to 15 per cent at the beginning of the month, but the immediate discussions on the family set will be unpleasant.

The actual cost of a mortgage rise by around 24 per cent annually, and for the time being the increase will be even more because of the inland revenue's inability to cope with necessary adjustments to ridal tax codes. This is that until the Revenue's finger out—which, we been warned, will not be next April—most people

The Times/Halifax house price index

Monthly Index of average prices of second-hand houses (Seasonally adjusted)

	Index	Average price (£)	% change over 1 year	% change over 6 months	% change over 3 months
1977 December	100.0	14,757			
1978 March	105.8	15,579	15.5	8.8	5.6
June	109.3	16,133	16.9	9.3	3.6
September	112.2	17,490	23.0	12.0	8.2
October	117.4	17,328	20.9	13.5	4.0
November	119.9	17,981	21.9	14.8	3.1
December	121.1	17,866	21.1	10.7	2.4
1979 January	122.8	18,132	20.8	8.8	4.7
February	127.3	18,783	24.8	10.5	6.2
March	130.5	19,259	25.8	10.4	5.8
April	131.7	19,441	27.3	12.2	7.2
May	136.2	20,094	30.4	13.6	7.0
June	138.4	20,341	28.1	19.5	5.6
July	142.6	21,038	28.2	16.0	8.2
August	145.2	21,427	28.0	14.1	8.6
September	145.5	21,480	27.1	11.5	8.6
October	149.5	22,065	27.4	13.5	4.9
November	151.4	22,339	28.3	11.2	4.3

Average regional prices of second-hand houses

	November £	Previous month £	% change over 3 months
North	18,667	16,903	-2.0
York and Humberside	18,519	14,950	7.5
North-west	18,395	17,366	-0.7
East Midlands	17,234	17,366	-0.7
West Midlands	19,501	18,133	1.3
East Anglia	20,711	20,393	4.0
Wales	17,728	17,344	2.3
South-west	23,559	23,529	4.7
London	28,441	28,441	4.7
Greater London	30,426	30,206	6.0
Northern Ireland	21,585	22,211	-2.3
Scotland	20,476	20,360	2.7

will face an increase of 45 per cent in their mortgage outgoings.

These factors are likely to act as a deterrent to those who would normally be seeking to trade up next year. The recent upsurge in both house prices and incomes has meant that more couples are turning over their houses earlier and younger.

Some 60 per cent of owner-occupied trading up is under 35 years of age and the life of a typical mortgage is now down to about 51 years. However, if prices do decelerate, vendors are more likely to take their houses off the market for several months, if not longer.

MS

A wife's investment income Former husband's debt

Though my husband and I taxed separately my dividends are deemed to be the income of my husband. This means that he pays 20 per cent investment income tax as well as being liable for the higher rates of income tax. As my husband is unemployed I am the taxpayer and I feel the income should be taxed to him. The tax tells me this is not possible. This strikes me as an exceptionally unequal opportunity. Could the tax office be reformed? (G. H. Munter).

the tax laws stand against a woman is regarded as the head of the household and all her income is deemed to be his. The only exception is that earnings (not investment income) of the wife are taxed separately if both husband and wife go elect the wife's earnings election.

Provided the combined income is sufficiently high a wife will be a tax saving under election—otherwise there is no point in making a claim and there will be a tax loss. A general guide is that if gross income for the combined tax year needs to exceed £15,000 for a claim to be considered.

As far as the investment income is concerned the husband's claim only gives exemption (at present £5,000 of gross income) even though both he and his wife may each receive substantial amounts.

number of politicians and others are urging equal opportunity under the tax laws and may well see a change for better in the not too distant future.

years ago when my marriage was dissolved, a court order was made providing my husband should pay me a lump sum of £4,000. He has nothing. Our former home occupied by him and is used by him and his brother-in-law in common under a tenancy for sale. My former husband has no assets or resources. Can I get the lump sum ordered? (N. J. J. J.).

because of the court order, my former husband is a judgment debtor. It would be pointless to take out a judgment against him to compel him to pay for his failure to observe the court order, as he has no assets out of which to satisfy this judgment. I have his interest in the house. A long-winded way of enforcing a sale would be to apply to the court for an order that your husband made bankrupt and his trustees in bankruptcy would be able to sell proceedings to enforce sale of the house. A more direct method is for you to apply to the court for the judgment to be a receiver of the former husband's interest in the property. The receiver may also be on power by the court to

Readers' Forum

This specialist readers' service has been compiled with the help of John Drummond, Vera Di Palma, Ronald Irving and Eric Brunet.

take any such proceedings in your husband's name and if necessary to enforce the sale of the property.

We have been living in our new house for some months. Since we have moved in, I have noticed a vacant area on the other side of the footpath which leads to my back garden. There are no fences around that area or around my garden. The area is shown on the deeds as "vacant plot" and it is of no use to any other property except mine. I have made inquiries of the local council who confirm that it does not belong to them and they are unable to locate the owner. I should like to know what I must do to acquire ownership of this plot. (M. R. S. R. S.).

In order to establish ownership of the plot in question you will need to occupy it for a period of at least 12 years. Occupation means exercising rights of ownership. If you use it as part of your garden, and start cultivating it, and erect a fence around it, this would in law establish your right to possession of the plot after 12 years. You could then apply to the District Land Registry to have the plot registered in your name, with possessory title.

In order to establish beyond any argument the date on which you start to exercise rights of ownership, you might like to go to a solicitor and ask him to draw up a statutory declaration stating the date on which you have commenced cultivation and other relevant details.

Earlier this year I took out a diminishing term assurance policy with Phoenix Assurance in favour of my sister, a United Kingdom resident, whom I appointed as a trustee for the policy. The benefits are payable to the United States dollar and the policy is now lodged with her for safekeeping. Although I am a British subject I have been a permanent resident of the Republic of South Africa for the past 18 years. In the light of the foregoing, would this "gift" of the United Kingdom by virtue of its expression in United States dollars or would it be subject to capital transfer

Stock Exchange Prices

Gilts active

ACCOUNT DAYS : Dealings Began, Dec 10. Dealings End, Dec 27. § Contango Day, Dec 28. Settlement Day, Jan 7
§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

[illegible]

السؤال الثاني

Shoparound with Beryl Downing Shoparound with Beryl Downing Shoparound with Beryl Downing Shoparound with Beryl Downing Shoparound with Beryl Downing

confess to having just com-
d one of the deadly sins
joyed it enormously, but
indiscretion is always so
more piquant after
of self denial. The
vation was a crash diet
the sin, entirely on your
it, was gluttony.

ts of foods specially pack-
for Christmas are pretty
gh to look at, but likely to
financial as well as glos-
mic blizzards and white
lona extravagance can be
ic, waste is simply mis-
gemens. So I thought you
like to know just what
side some of the tempta-
on offer this year.

palates will not, of
coincide, exactly, but
election has been tried on
al testers and in order to
cluded at all, each prod-
had to reach a minimum
of "good of its kind".
at least you know you
not being guided towards
browning fruit cakes or
late covered wood shav-

us start off modestly
sh with a selection for
ers. One of the most male
ist remarks I ever over-
made by a Lohrman
clearly was not say-
ing the secret of his
ss, with women: "I make
fine for the plain ones".
ified. "They are always
atful."

came in attractive 8.8oz rad-
dies of 80 bags for £1.39. Most
delicious accompaniment would
be a box of chocolate Coin-
treau sticks, which positively
drip with Hgneur as they melt
in your mouth, £2.85. Both tea
and Cointreau sticks are in
major branches of Marks and
Spencer.

Attractive food containers
that can be put to further use
are a practical idea. Benedic-
mustard comes in a reliable
brown chubb pot and is in the
stocking filler price range at
£1.86, available in many food
halls. Also in a brown pot, but
hardly in the same category,
unless you happen to have a
12 stockings, is a splendid
earthenware terrine holding
2.5 kilos of wild boar pate for
£25.

These terrines, by French
charcuterie producers Conday
of Connerre, are made in tradi-
tional eighteenth century
designs, each with a pottery
head on top indicating the
type of pate inside—as well as
the boar there is here, pleas-
ant, duck and venison. Then
there are small duck and pheas-
ant shaped containers holding
half a kilo at £8. They have no
lid, but could be used as
flower holders later. One of the
fancy an ornamental 21 inch
pheasant, duck or goose, hold-
ing 2 kilos, it will cost £39.

A selection of these terrines
is available from larger
branches of Marks and Spen-
cer, leading delicatessens. In the
Greater London area they can
be delivered to the door by
The Cold Table, 12 Abingdon
Road, London W8 (01-937 8400)
orders over £15. Other stock-
ists can be given by Bismic
International, Payne House, 24
Smithfield Street, London
EC1A 9LB.

If you prefer to start with
smoked salmon, sides at Sel-
fridges are well priced at
£10.85 for 14lb, £13.50 for 2lb.
Or they have Young's ready-
sliced smoked salmon, re-
formed as a side and frozen
for £9.50 per lb.

For really elegant gourmets
it is available from larger
branches of Marks and Spen-
cer, leading delicatessens. In the
Greater London area they can
be delivered to the door by
The Cold Table, 12 Abingdon
Road, London W8 (01-937 8400)
orders over £15. Other stock-
ists can be given by Bismic
International, Payne House, 24
Smithfield Street, London
EC1A 9LB.

Truffles usually come in
such tiny pieces in pates that
any inadequate palate can
hardly detect the flavour, so
the idea of a whole one intri-
gues me. I have always envied
a jet-setting friend who tends
to breakfast in Copenhagen
and lunch in Cannes and who
is the only gastronome I know
who has eaten whole truffles as
an hors d'oeuvre.

He tells me they were
placed, unpeeled, in a sauce-
pan containing enough dry
white wine to cover and then
simmered for 12 to 15 minutes
until the liquid evaporated.
Peeled ones take five or six
minutes. They were then
thinly sliced and served, one
to each of six diners, at £40
per portion—and that was
eight years ago. Relatively
speaking, the ones in the
Cavir Bar at £13.66 each are
almost loss leaders.

I must have had a touch of
the Christmas glitters, as my
next temptation was Nigel
Milne's shop in Mount Street,
London W1, where there is a
beautiful collection of Victo-
rian and Edwardian silver
photograph frames. Price
depends not only on size, but
on the quality and elaboration
of the decoration. A small
plain frame might cost £65, an
elaborate 10 x 8in one, £350, a
double one that folds back on
itself, £250.

Obviously, with all this silver
around one needs a swag bag,
and I found the most hand-
some hold-all at Loewe, 25a
New Bond Street, London W1.
It may be very upper class to
go around with tatty old suit-
cases handed down from the
Crimes, but, unless your inten-
tion is to leave babies called
Ernest in them at Victoria
Station, I would recommend
something slightly more dis-
tinctive. This particular bag is
in the softest honey-coloured
suede with a strapped and

studded bottom section which
can be let down to accommo-
date your contraband, £289.



Food and drink for Christmas giving and enjoying, including, of course, candy which is dandy and liquor which is quicker. Details and report, left.

Quite the prettiest way of
giving a party off to a good
start is to serve pink cham-
pagne. Not any old pink cham-
pagne, you understand, which
the older guests may associate
with mild athlete's foot, having
drunk it in their youth from
ladies' slippers. No, this must
be the really dry and deli-
cious, Laurent-Perrin, Rose
Brut champagne, which is one
of the few pink drinks to
merit a second taste from the
few real wine buffs I know. It
costs about £8.50 a bottle and
you can find it at McKinnon &
Co, Belgrave Court, London,
SW1. Barmans Liquor Stores,
Goldhawk Road, London, W12,
Beaconsfield Wine Cellars,
Buckinghamshire, Michael

Dack, Canterbury, and Edward
Sheldon, Shipston-on-Strour.

For more serious drinkers I
would suggest The Macalan
10-year-old single malt. Dis-
tilled on Speyside, matured in
oak casks that have contained
sherry, it is described in the
Harrods Book of Whiskies as a
"Rolls-Royce among malts".
Such a phrase often means
that a Rolls-Royce price is
about to be charged for a
Mini, but in this case you are
getting the real McCoy. It
costs £9 a bottle at Harrods.

Or you might know someone
who enjoys hawthorn-honey
Cresty's make a delightful min-
ture hamper containing ging-
ham bags of spices for making
mulled wine. A book of seven

recipes is included, £4.95 from
Liberty's.

You might offer a plebeian
peanut with your wine, but
Macademia nuts would add a
classier touch. They claim to
be the most expensive nuts in
the world at £1.86 for 100
grams and they are rather like
obese cashew nuts. I should
point out, though, that printed
on the side of the elegant
brown box is the legend
"Packed with the approval of
the Tree Nut Authority at
Nanning 'Ombe Estate", which
sounds like a Malawi govern-
ment health warning not to
forget the Alka Seltzer. After
all, you can't be too careful
with a Tree Nut authority.

A tiny gallery of a shop, which
opened a month ago at 11a
William Street, London SW1, is
quite unlike any other antique
shop I have seen. Some have
pieces obviously destined for a
museum, others for a munici-
pal dump, but most have a
selection rather than a collec-
tion to offer. However desir-
able the pieces and however
beautiful they may look in
someone's home, they have no
bearing upon each other while
actually in the shop.

Presantiques, the creation of
Marietta Coleridge and Delfina
Wansbrough, is different. All
the objects are quite small, or
at least portable, and they are
all like members of a rather
large family, not as close in
feeling as brothers and sisters
but not so far apart as second
cousins.

The reason is that they are
all Mrs Coleridge's personal
choice. She does not buy them
because she thinks they will
sell, but because they are nice
enough to have in her own
home. That is a very high
standard indeed, because her
husband is a director of Chris-
tie's and although he has
nothing to do with his wife's
business for ethical reasons, it
was his experience that in-
fluenced her taste and made
her want to study antiques,
too.

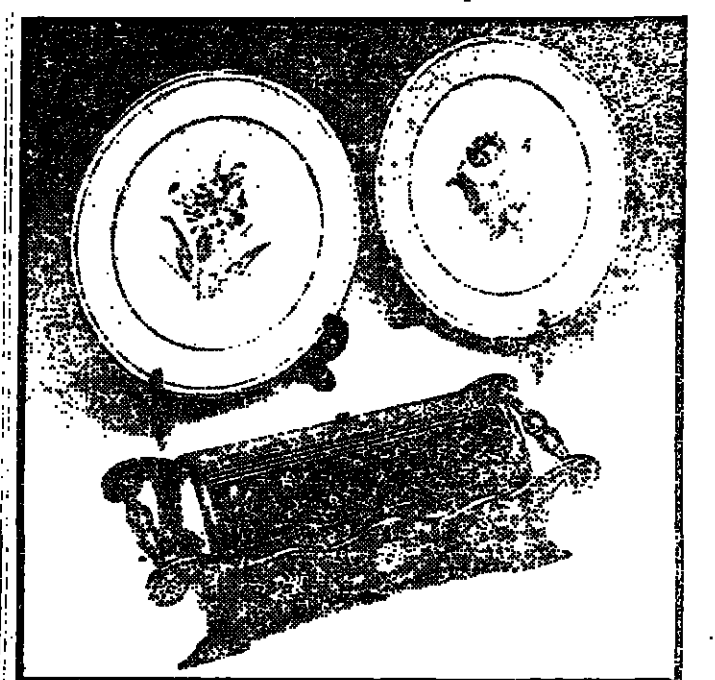
She specializes in the nine-
teenth century and her
favourite materials are bronze

and ormolu. She is also mad
about the sphinx and buys it
in any form—she even has a
boot scraper with enigmatic
feet. In case you fancy it, it
costs £210.

The price range is perfect
for presents, ranging from £10
to about £500. At the lower
end you could choose an
English Chinoiserie cup or a
delicate mother of pearl pen-
knife: for £20 there is a lovely
bronze coloured lacquered box
with golden leaves and birds.

For those with deeper
pockets, there is a very hand-
some lacquer tea caddy with
an unusually worked water
lining, £175, a variety of beau-
tiful porcelain vases and plates
or, if your taste is for the
curious, a zither harp painted
with a picture of Queen Vic-
toria, £150.

Equally intriguing is a
strangely curved upholstered
stool piece that turned out to
be a gout stool. It would cer-
tainly be a conversation
starter—but be prepared for
some hairy revelations.



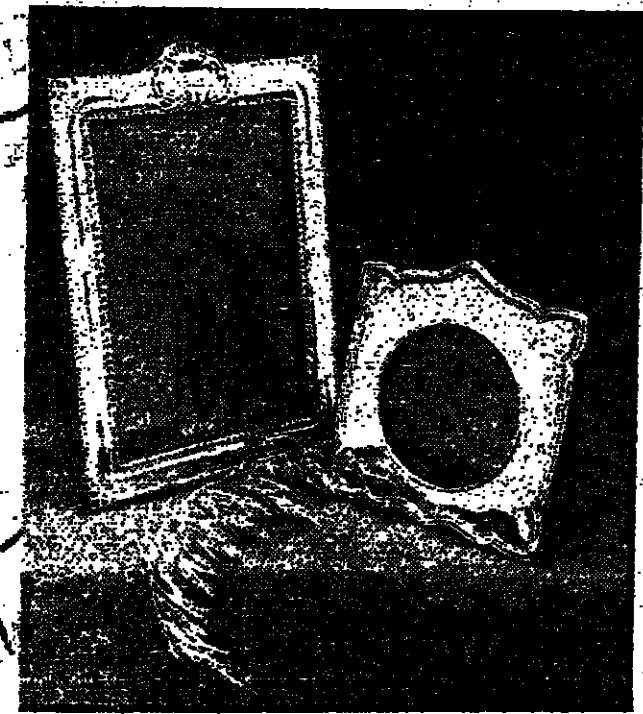
Pair of Coalport plates with turquoise and gold surround, £48, and Regency roll-top inkstand in rosewood, £200. Both from Presantiques, 11a William Street, London SW1

Acquisitive children of all
ages should make a note of a
toy auction to be held at Mow-
comb Street, London SW1, next
Wednesday and Thursday by
Sutheby's Belgrave. It is the
largest sale of its type they
have held and the lots range
from 1950s toys estimated to
sell at £5 to £10 to French
automata such as a laughing
clown made in the 1890s, which
is expected to reach around
£3,000.

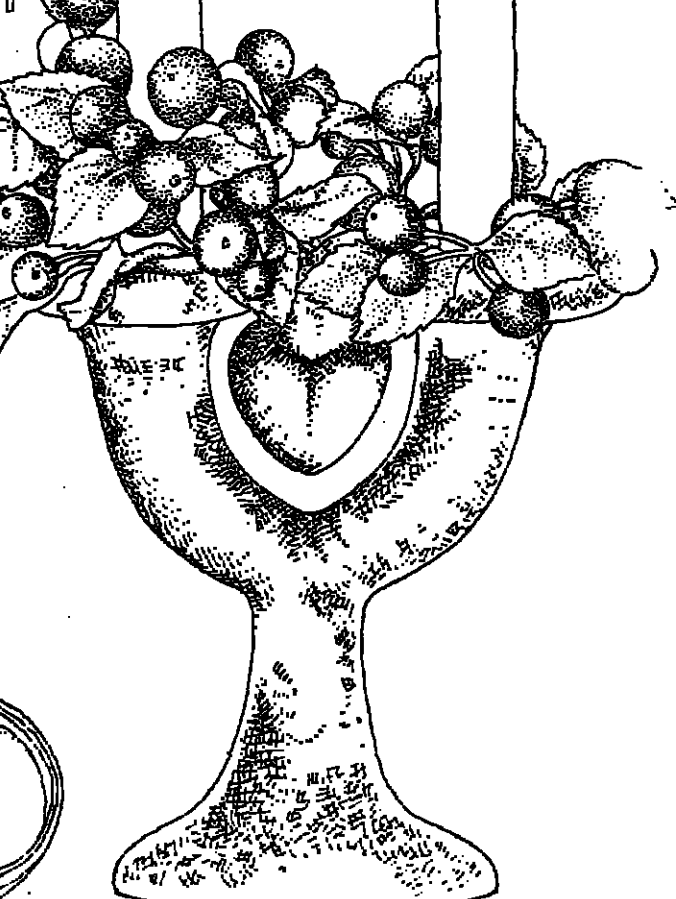
The oldest items are George
III painted wooden dolls and
there is a Biedermeier shoul-
der paper-mache doll made
around 1830 and a poured
shoulder-wax portrait doll of
the young Queen Victoria
made around 1840.

If you are interested in mod-
ern craftsmen made toys, too,
Charles de Temple has an exhibi-
tion of fascinating examples at
52 Jermyn Street, London
SW1. There are pretty porce-
lain dolls in traditional styles
by Judy Sanders, some of Jett
Hills's well-known clowns, pi-
cayane Pierrots by Eva and a
selection of witty wooden toys
by Maggie Wareham. Prices
range from £2.50 for a rag doll
kit by Louise Elliott to £250
and the exhibition is open
until Christmas Eve.

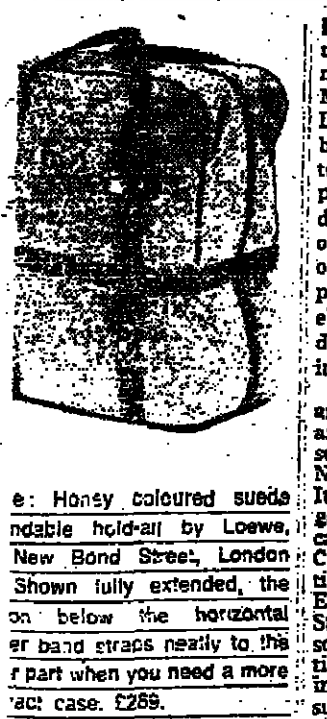
Brightly painted wooden
balloon by Maggie Ware-
ham, £40 from Charles de
Temple's Craftsmen of Dis-
tinction exhibition, 52
Jermyn Street, SW1.



Right: Swedish
glass candle-
holder by
Pukeberg, £11.80,
decorated with
garlands of glossy
red berries, £1.85
each. From The
Swedish Table, 7
Paddington
Street, London,
W1.
Below: Cobalt
blue and white
hand-painted box
containing a
candle. Made in
Thailand, £3.50
from Ganessa, 6
Park Walk,
Fulham Road,
London, SW10.



Above left: Edwardian silver photograph frame, 7 x 5
inches, made in Chester in 1911, £135, and Victorian
frame, 4 x 4 inches, made in Birmingham 1904 £110.
Both from Nigel Milne, 91 Mount Street, London, W1.
Above: 19c gold box with carved opal flowers diamond,
centred on an onyx lid £2,583. Fluted bar jigger
in silver with hammered silver gilt stem, £154. Both by
Stuart Devlin, 25 Conduit Street, London, W1.



e: Honey coloured suede
hold-all by Loewe,
New Bond Street, London.
Shown fully extended, the
on below the horizontal
er band straps neatly to the
r part when you need a more
act case. £289.

studded bottom section which
can be let down to accommo-
date your contraband, £289.

I make no apologies for
showing you very expensive
presents this week. I love look-
ing at beautiful things, but
don't have the slightest pangs
at having to part with them, so
I hope some of you feel the
same. And to those of you who
can actually go out and buy
them, I wish you appreciation.

As all good fairy tales start
in a palace, I went to Stuart
Devlin's new shop in Conduit
Street, which is like walking
straight into something from
Hans Christian Andersen. Mr
Devlin, whose artistic
experience ranges from sculp-
ture to furniture design,
trained as a silversmith at the
Royal College of Art and could
literally be said to be coining
it when he was commissioned

to design the Australian dec-
imal currency.

His learnings since have been
towards much more exotic
flights of fancy and he is, of
course, known for his superb
fantasy eggs. There is a beau-
tiful example on display in 18c
gold, diamond round the
cracked "shell" and filled
with pearl flowers and a hover-
ing butterfly. Yours for £7,879.

His design preoccupation is
with tiny flowers, massed in
silver and silver gilt round the
frames of mirrors or the edges
of bowls. A small mirror might
cost £47, a fruit bowl £3,000.

Flatware is a singularly dull
name for some of the superb
knives, forks and spoons
designed by Stuart Devlin and
hand-forged by Richard Cook,
the only silversmith left in the
world. I am told, who hammers
each piece out of an ingot of
silver. The results are quite
magnificent and you could
have a single example of it by
choosing a paper knife made

in one sweeping curve, the
handle textured and the blade
rapier smooth, £240.

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Be careful for nothing: but
every man should have a
supplication with thanksgiving
for every request made known
unto God. — Philippians 4: 6

BIRTHS
BOIS—On December 10th, 1979,
to Frances and David, a daughter,
Emma Louise.

BOYD—On December 10th, 1979,
to Sarah and Peter, a daughter,
Sarah Jane.

BROWN—On December 10th, 1979,
to John and Mary, a daughter,
Jessica.

CLARK—On December 10th, 1979,
to David and Susan, a daughter,
Susan Jane.

FISHER—On December 10th, 1979,
to John and Mary, a daughter,
Mary Jane.

IN MEMORIAM
CROGAN—In loving memory of
John Crogan, who died on
December 10th, 1979.

IN MEMORIAM
MERRILL—In loving memory of
John Merrill, who died on
December 10th, 1979.

IN MEMORIAM
POWER—In loving memory of
John Power, who died on
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TWEED—In loving memory of
John Tweed, who died on
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WRIGHT—In loving memory of
John Wright, who died on
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John Wright, who died on
December 10th, 1979.

MARRIAGES

GURNEY—On December 10th, 1979,
to John and Mary, a daughter,
Mary Jane.

DEATHS
BRADSHAW—On December 10th, 1979,
to John and Mary, a daughter,
Mary Jane.

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UK HOLIDAYS

MEMORIAL SERVICES

IN MEMORIAM

IN MEMORIAM

IN MEMORIAM

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IN MEMORIAM

IN MEMORIAM

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

TRAVEL COMPANIES

SHORT LETS

BARGAIN HOLIDAYS

CHRISTMAS DOGS

COULD YOU PASS

THE WAY-IN CLUB

TRAVEL COMPANIES

THE GOLF SOCIETY

CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS

WINE AND DINE

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HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

CHRISTMAS SKIING AND
BUMPER NEW YEAR BARGAINS

CHRISTMAS : 22/23 December departures

CHALET BARGAINS

SKI SUPERTRAVEL

TREAT YOURSELF TO A JMT
£75 CHRISTMAS BONUS

JOHN MORGAN TRAVEL

A SKIING OFFER YOU CANT
REFUSE ON 12 JANUARY

SKI MARK WARNER

RENTALS

CHESTERTONS

FLAT SHARING

SITUATIONS WANTED

ROLLS-ROYCE & BEN

SILVER CLOUD 19

CLASSIFIED
ADVERTISING
WORKS

CLASSIFIED
ADVERTISING
RATES

LIPFRIEND

SPACIOUS FLAT

BOOKS WANTED

RENTALS

WANTED

FOR THE STATES AS THEY
SHOULD BE SEEN

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

BOOKS WANTED

RENTALS

WANTED

FOR THE STATES AS THEY
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HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

BOOKS WANTED

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